

LYSOSOMAL STORAGE DISEASES

The CD22-IGF2R interaction is a therapeutic target for microglial lysosome dysfunction in Niemann-Pick type C

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Lysosome dysfunction is a shared feature of rare lysosomal storage diseases and common age-related neurodegenerative diseases. Microglia, the brain-resident macrophages, are particularly vulnerable to lysosome dysfunction because of the phagocytic stress of clearing dying neurons, myelin, and debris. CD22 is a negative regulator of microglial homeostasis in the aging mouse brain, and soluble CD22 (sCD22) is increased in the cerebrospinal fluid of patients with Niemann-Pick type C disease (NPC). However, the role of CD22 in the human brain remains unknown. In contrast to previous findings in mice, here, we show that CD22 is expressed by oligodendrocytes in the human brain and binds to sialic acid-dependent ligands on microglia. Using unbiased genetic and proteomic screens, we identify insulin-like growth factor 2 receptor (IGF2R) as the binding partner of sCD22 on human myeloid cells. Targeted truncation of IGF2R revealed that sCD22 docks near critical mannose 6-phosphate-binding domains, where it disrupts lysosomal protein trafficking. Interfering with the sCD22-IGF2R interaction using CD22 blocking antibodies ameliorated lysosome dysfunction in human *NPC1* mutant induced pluripotent stem cell-derived microglia-like cells without harming oligodendrocytes in vitro. These findings reinforce the differences between mouse and human microglia and provide a candidate microglia-directed immunotherapeutic to treat NPC.

INTRODUCTION

Lysosomes are specialized organelles (1) that degrade and recycle macromolecules, connecting catabolic and anabolic metabolism. Although all tissues require lysosomes to maintain homeostasis, the metabolically demanding brain is especially reliant on lysosome function as evident by the neurological phenotypes of many lysosomal storage diseases (LSDs) (2). Neuropathological changes in rare inherited LSDs resemble those in common age-related neurodegenerative diseases. Both entities involve accumulation of lysosomal cargo due to increased substrate production, impaired substrate degradation,

or reduced clearance of end products (3). For example, autosomal recessive mutations in the glucocerebrosidase gene, which encodes a lysosomal enzyme necessary for glycosphingolipid degradation, cause Gaucher's disease, whereas heterozygous carriers are predisposed to Parkinson's disease (4). Even when the underlying genetic etiology is different, LSDs and age-related neurodegenerative diseases display unexpected molecular overlap. Both Niemann-Pick type C disease (NPC) and Alzheimer's disease involve protein aggregation, neuroinflammation, and disrupted lipid metabolism (5, 6, 7, 8, 9).

Patients with NPC, caused by autosomal recessive mutations in *NPC1* (95% of cases) or *NPC2*, typically present in early childhood with motor deficits and gradual cognitive impairment. These clinical signs are associated with neurodegeneration, especially in the cerebellum, and demyelination (10). Progressive neurological decline leads to premature death in the second or third decade (11). There are currently no Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved therapies for NPC, necessitating new treatment approaches.

Whereas Purkinje cell loss is the classic histological finding of NPC, microglial activation has been shown to precede neurodegeneration in mouse models of disease (12–16), and inflamed microglia are found near neurons destined for death in NPC patient brains (17). These studies suggest that the neuron-extrinsic effects of dysfunctional microglia are likely key contributors to disease pathogenesis and important considerations for therapeutic development.

We previously found that CD22 is up-regulated on microglia in the aging mouse brain where it inhibits phagocytosis of protein aggregates and myelin debris (18). CD22 blockade restored microglial homeostasis and improved cognitive function in aged mice. In addition, soluble CD22 (sCD22) was found to be increased in the cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) of patients with NPC (12). Motivated by

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these findings, we set out to understand the role of CD22 in the human brain and to determine the translational potential of blocking CD22 to treat NPC.

RESULTS

Oligodendrocyte-derived sCD22 binds sialic acid ligands on microglia

To determine the source of sCD22 in NPC patient CSF, we mined a publicly available human single-nucleus RNA sequencing (snRNA-seq) atlas (Brain Atlas) (19). We found that CD22 is almost exclusively expressed by oligodendrocytes in the human brain (Fig. 1, A and B). This contrasts our previous findings that CD22 is expressed by microglia in the mouse brain (18), reinforcing divergence of microglial phenotypes between species. CD22 is detected in both microglia (20) and oligodendrocytes (21) from nonhuman primates (fig. S1, A and B), indicative of an evolutionary trajectory. To confirm CD22 expression in human tissue, we performed multiplexed RNA in situ hybridization (RNAscope) to probe for *CD22*, *MOG*, encoding myelin oligodendrocyte

glycoprotein, and *AIF1*, encoding the microglia marker ionized calcium-binding adapter molecule 1 (IBA1). We detected *CD22* transcripts exclusively in *MOG*⁺ oligodendrocytes and not *AIF1*⁺ microglia (Fig. 1C), aligning with the Brain Atlas. Next, we performed quantitative flow cytometry on fresh primary human cortical tissue to interrogate the native cell surface proteome of live brain cells (Fig. 1D). Whereas CD22 protein was barely detectable on the surface of microtubule-associated protein 2–positive (MAP2⁺) neurons, CD45⁺ microglia, and O4⁺MBP⁻ oligodendrocyte precursor cells (OPCs), O4⁺MBP⁺ oligodendrocytes displayed high numbers of cell surface CD22 molecules similar to B cells (Fig. 1, E and F, and fig. S1C). In the absence of peripheral immune cell invasion (12), these data suggest that oligodendrocytes are the main source of sCD22 in human CSF.

sCD22 has previously been used as a biomarker for sepsis and B cell malignancies (22, 23) and has been proposed as a biomarker of neurodegeneration in NPC (12). However, given our understanding of membrane-bound CD22 signaling and function in mice (18), we asked whether sCD22 might bind ligands in the human central nervous system (CNS) to modulate brain function. We queried the

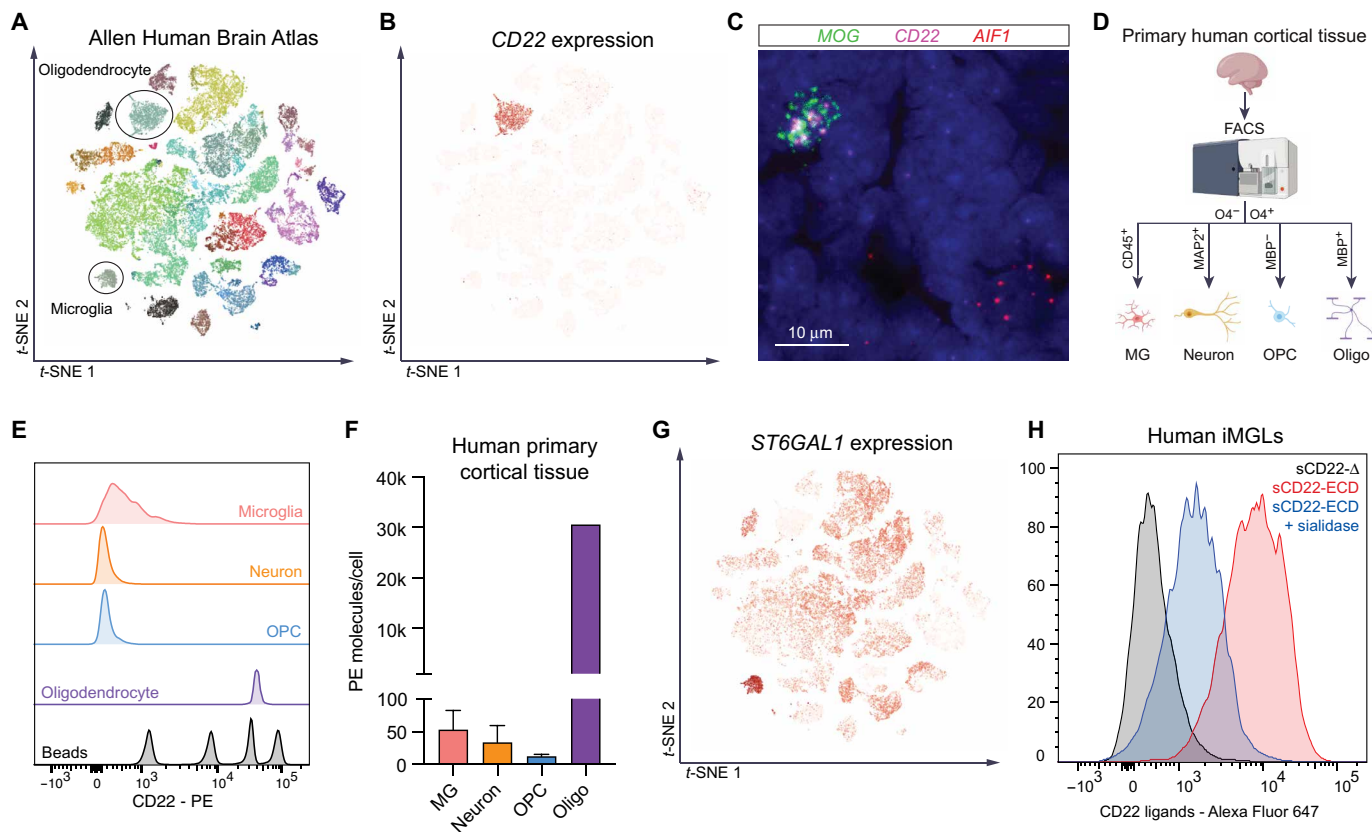


Fig. 1. Oligodendrocyte-derived sCD22 binds sialic acid ligands on microglia. (A) *t*-distributed stochastic neighbor embedding (*t*-SNE) visualization of snRNA-seq data from multiple cortical areas of human brain colored by cell type. Data from Allen Brain Atlas (19). (B) *t*-SNE visualization of snRNA-seq data from multiple cortical areas of human brain colored by CD22 expression. (C) Representative image of human brain tissue probed for *MOG* (green), *CD22* (magenta), and *AIF1* (red) transcripts by multiplexed fluorescent RNAscope. Clustered puncta within 4',6-diamidino-2-phenylindole–positive nuclei suggest true signal. (D) Schematic of FACS analysis of various cell types from fresh human primary cortical tissue. (E) Flow cytometry analysis of surface CD22 protein expression in CD45⁺ microglia (pink), MAP2⁺ neurons (orange), O4⁺MBP⁻ OPCs (blue) and O4⁺MBP⁺ oligodendrocytes (purple) from fresh human primary cortical tissue (PCW 22). PE quantification beads are shown in gray. (F) Quantification of CD22-PE molecules bound to the surface of various human brain cell types calculated using PE bead standards ($n = 2$ biological replicates; PCWs 20 to 22; O4⁺MBP⁺ cells only detected at PCW 22). (G) *t*-SNE visualization of snRNA-seq data from multiple cortical areas of human brain colored by *ST6GAL1* expression. (H) Flow cytometry analysis of human iMGLs stained with fluorophore-conjugated CD22 lacking its sialic acid–binding domain (sCD22- Δ , gray) or the full-length CD22 ECD (sCD22-ECD, red). In one condition, cells were pretreated with sialidase before sCD22-ECD staining (blue).

Brain Atlas for the expression of *ST6GAL1*, a glycosyltransferase that attaches sialic acid to growing glycan chains with an $\alpha 2,6$ -linkage, the preferred glycan ligand for CD22 (24, 25). We found that *ST6GAL1* is specifically enriched in microglia in the human CNS (Fig. 1G), suggesting that ligands on microglia might be the target of sCD22 (fig. S1D). Using fluorophore-conjugated recombinant CD22 as a staining reagent, we found that human induced pluripotent stem cell (iPSC)-derived microglia-like cells (iMGLs) and fresh autopsy-derived primary microglia express high amounts of sCD22 ligands that are sensitive to sialidase treatment (Fig. 1H and fig. S1E). In contrast, sCD22 did not bind to the surface of freshly isolated neurons or fibroblasts from patients with NPC, which minimally express *ST6GAL1* (fig. S1, F and G). Together, these data support a model in which oligodendrocyte-derived sCD22 specifically binds sialic acid-dependent ligands on microglia in the human CNS (fig. S1, H and I) and raise the hypothesis that sCD22 modulates microglial function.

Genetic and proteomic screens elucidate CD22-IGF2R interaction

To identify sCD22-binding partners on microglia, we performed a genome-wide CRISPR-Cas9 knockout (KO) screen using the human myeloid cell line, U937 (Fig. 2A). U937 cells have previously been used to model human microglia (26) and express CD22 ligands (fig. S2A). Cas9-expressing U937 cells were infected with a library of single-guide RNAs (sgRNAs) targeting all protein-coding genes, with 10 distinct sgRNAs per gene and $\sim 10,000$ negative control sgRNAs. We stained this pool of stable single-KO cells with

fluorophore-conjugated recombinant CD22 and sorted cells with high (top 5%) and low (bottom 5%) CD22 ligand expression by fluorescence-activated cell sorting (FACS) (fig. S2A). Next, we sequenced genomic DNA from each population, compared sgRNA distribution between populations, and estimated the effect size and *P* value for each gene KO using casTLE (27). This screen identified 66 hits with a false discovery rate of less than 10%, including *ST6GAL1*, a known genetic modifier of CD22 glycan ligand synthesis (Fig. 2B and table S1) (28).

The top hit from the KO screen that inhibited CD22 binding was insulin-like growth factor 2 receptor (*IGF2R*), also known as the cation-independent mannose 6-phosphate (M6P) receptor. As evident in its two names, IGF2R binds diverse ligands including the growth factor IGF2 and the lysosome-targeting glycan modification M6P. *IGF2R* is broadly expressed on all cell types in the human CNS, including microglia (fig. S2, B and C). Given the absence of sCD22 binding to neurons or fibroblasts (fig. S1, E and F), coexpression of *IGF2R* (broadly expressed) and *ST6GAL1* (enriched in microglia) may be required for cell surface display of the full protein-glycan conjugate that binds sCD22. Knocking out *IGF2R* (fig. S2D) almost completely ablated sCD22 binding to U937 cells (Fig. 2C), consistent with the results from the genome-wide CRISPR-Cas9 KO screen. This could be due to a physical interaction between IGF2R and sCD22 or due to an upstream role of IGF2R in displaying the true sCD22-binding partner on the cell surface.

To distinguish between these two possibilities, we performed affinity purification followed by liquid chromatography–mass

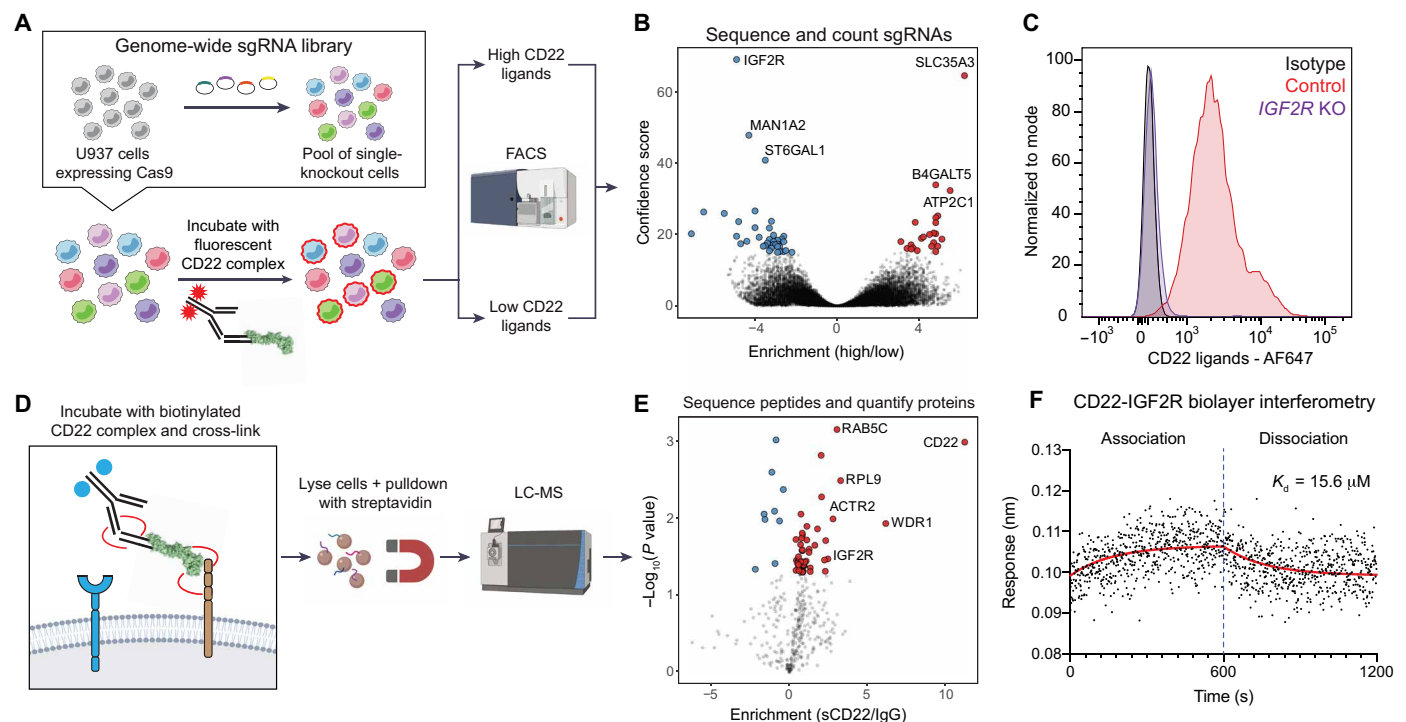


Fig. 2. Genetic and proteomic screens elucidate CD22-IGF2R interaction. (A) Schematic of CRISPR-Cas9 screen for genetic modifiers of sCD22 binding. (B) Volcano plot of hits from CRISPR-Cas9 screen, highlighting KOs that inhibit CD22 binding (blue) and promote CD22 binding (red). (C) Flow cytometry analysis of CD22 ligand expression on U937 cells infected with a safe-targeting sgRNA (control, red) or an IGF2R-targeting sgRNA (purple). Isotype control-stained WT cells are shown in gray. AF647, Alexa Fluor 647. (D) Schematic of affinity purification LC-MS screen for direct binding partners of sCD22. (E) Volcano plot of hits from affinity purification LC-MS screen, highlighting proteins enriched in the CD22-bound fraction (red). (F) Kinetics of the CD22-IGF2R interaction determined by biolayer interferometry. Red line shows nonlinear fit of association-dissociation curve. K_d , dissociation constant.

spectrometry (LC-MS) for direct binding partners of sCD22 (Fig. 2D). We incubated U937 cells with biotinylated recombinant CD22 and treated with a membrane-impermeable cross-linker. This fixation step is necessary to stabilize low-affinity Siglec-glycan interactions missed by traditional coimmunoprecipitation techniques (29). Next, sCD22-bound protein complexes were enriched from cell lysates with streptavidin beads (fig. S2E), stringently washed, and digested with trypsin for label-free quantification LC-MS analysis. We found several proteins enriched in the sCD22-bound fraction, including IGF2R (Fig. 2E and table S2). Other enriched proteins included CD22 (affinity reagent) and some potential nonspecific binders not known to localize to the cell surface. However, IGF2R was the only overlapping hit in orthogonal genetic and proteomic screens (Fig. 2, B and E). Using electrophoretic mobility shift assays (EMSAs) (fig. S2F) and quantitative bilayer interferometry (Fig. 2F), we confirmed a biophysical interaction between CD22 and IGF2R with micromolar affinity, comparable to that of CD22 for its native glycan ligand (30). Together, orthogonal genetic and proteomic screens identify IGF2R as a binding partner of sCD22 on human myeloid cells.

CD22 impairs M6P-dependent lysosomal trafficking

IGF2R is a large 140-kb gene with 48 exons coding for an approximately 300-kDa transmembrane protein containing multiple functional domains. To determine where sCD22 binds IGF2R and which function it might modulate, we used two truncated forms of IGF2R as decoy proteins (Fig. 3A). Decoy 1 contains both known M6P-binding sites, and decoy 2 contains the known IGF2-binding site (Fig. 3A). We preincubated fluorophore-conjugated sCD22 with these decoy proteins and assessed binding to native surface IGF2R on U937s by flow cytometry. Whereas decoy 1 (containing M6P sites) inhibited sCD22 binding, decoy 2 (containing the IGF2 site) had no effect (Fig. 3A). These data localize sCD22 binding to the N terminus of IGF2R, where it might interfere with M6P trafficking.

IGF2R typically binds M6P-modified proteins in the trans-Golgi network (TGN) and releases them in the late endosome (31). However, a fraction of M6P-modified proteins are secreted into the extracellular space and recaptured by IGF2R on the cell surface (32, 33). This minor secretion-recapture pathway has been exploited by enzyme replacement therapy (ERT) to deliver M6P-modified recombinant proteins to deficient cells (34) and more recently leveraged for generalized degradation of cell surface or extracellular proteins (35).

We asked whether sCD22 might interfere with this recapture pathway by blocking sites on the N-terminal, M6P-binding domain of IGF2R. We conjugated a pH-sensitive dye to cathepsin D (CTSD), a lysosomal protease frequently mislocalized in NPC tissues (36), increased in NPC patient serum (37), and shown to have neurotoxic effects (38–40). By flow cytometry, we detected pH-dependent fluorescent signal in wild-type (WT) but not IGF2R-KO U937 cells incubated with CTSD (fig. S3A), indicating IGF2R-dependent trafficking to the lysosome. Moreover, pretreating WT cells with saturating amounts of free M6P blocked CTSD trafficking (brown line, Fig. 3B). Compared to truncated sCD22 lacking its sialic acid-binding domain (control, sCD22- Δ , black line, Fig. 3B and fig. S3B), the full-length sCD22 extracellular domain (sCD22-ECD) impaired trafficking of CTSD to the lysosome (red line, Fig. 3B). However, cotreatment with sCD22-ECD and an IGF2R antibody that blocks CD22 (fig. S3B) but not M6P binding abrogated this effect (blue line,

Fig. 3B). We found similar results with NPC2 (Fig. 3C), the M6P-modified soluble counterpart to NPC1 that assists in exporting cholesterol from the lysosome (41–43). sCD22-ECD treatment had no effect on gene expression (fig. S3D), lysosomal proteolysis (fig. S3E), transferrin endocytosis (fig. S3F), or autophagy (fig. S3G), suggestive of a specific mechanism of action in which sCD22 impairs IGF2R-dependent recapture of lysosomal proteins from the extracellular space (fig. S3H).

Next, we assessed the effect of sCD22 on endogenous lysosomal protein trafficking. Compared to binding-incompetent sCD22- Δ , sCD22-ECD treatment depleted both immature and mature proteoforms of endogenous CTSD in WT U937 cells, albeit to a lesser extent than IGF2R KO cells lacking critical M6P trafficking machinery (Fig. 3D). Similarly, sCD22-ECD depleted total NPC2 protein (Fig. 3E) and reduced the proportion of endogenous NPC2 per lysosome (Fig. 3, F and G). Mislocalized NPC2 in the CSF has been previously observed in LSDs (44) and is associated with lysosomal cholesterol accumulation (45).

IGF2R molecules are distributed throughout the TGN, endolysosomal system, and plasma membrane (46, 47) and are frequently recycled after delivering cargo to lysosomes (48, 49). Given the deleterious effects of sCD22 on both exogenous and endogenous lysosomal protein trafficking, we asked whether sCD22 might disturb the distribution of IGF2R among organelles. By immunofluorescence, sCD22-ECD had no effect on IGF2R colocalization with GOLGA1, a Golgi apparatus marker, TGN46, a TGN marker, or EEA1, an early endosome marker, relative to sCD22- Δ (Fig. 3, H and I, and fig. S3, I to L). However, sCD22-ECD treatment depleted IGF2R from Rab7⁺ late endosomes (fig. S3, M and N) and lysosome-associated membrane protein 1 (LAMP1⁺) lysosomes (Fig. 3, J and K) and increased its plasma membrane localization (Fig. 3, L and M) without a detectable change in total protein quantity (fig. S3O). These data suggest that sCD22 either promotes IGF2R trafficking from the TGN to the cell surface, bypassing the endolysosomal system, or sequesters IGF2R at the cell surface, thereby blocking exogenous lysosomal protein trafficking and reducing receptors available for TGN-to-lysosome trafficking (fig. S3P).

Properly localized lysosomal proteins are essential for the downstream processing of phagocytic cargo. To evaluate the effect of sCD22 on this process, we treated iMGLs with sCD22-ECD or sCD22- Δ and incubated the cells with pH-sensitive fluorescently labeled myelin, a phagocytic substrate abundant in the demyelinating NPC brain (50). By flow cytometry, we found that sCD22-ECD reduced myelin uptake compared to sCD22- Δ (Fig. 3, N and O). Furthermore, we observed a concomitant decrease in BODIPY signal, a marker of neutral lipid droplets (Fig. 3, N and P). Gating for only nonphagocytic cells, sCD22-ECD-treated iMGLs contained fewer lipid droplets at baseline (fig. S3Q), recapitulating a known lipid processing defect previously observed in *Npc1*^{-/-} microglia (15).

Generation of a CD22 antibody that ameliorates lysosome dysfunction

Having established that sCD22 impairs IGF2R-dependent lysosomal trafficking, we asked whether blocking this interaction might rescue lysosome dysfunction in NPC. Several monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) targeting CD22 are in clinical development or FDA-approved treatments for B cell malignancies (51). However, none of these mAbs are known to block the sialic acid-binding domain critical for sCD22-IGF2R interaction (52). We screened a nearly comprehensive

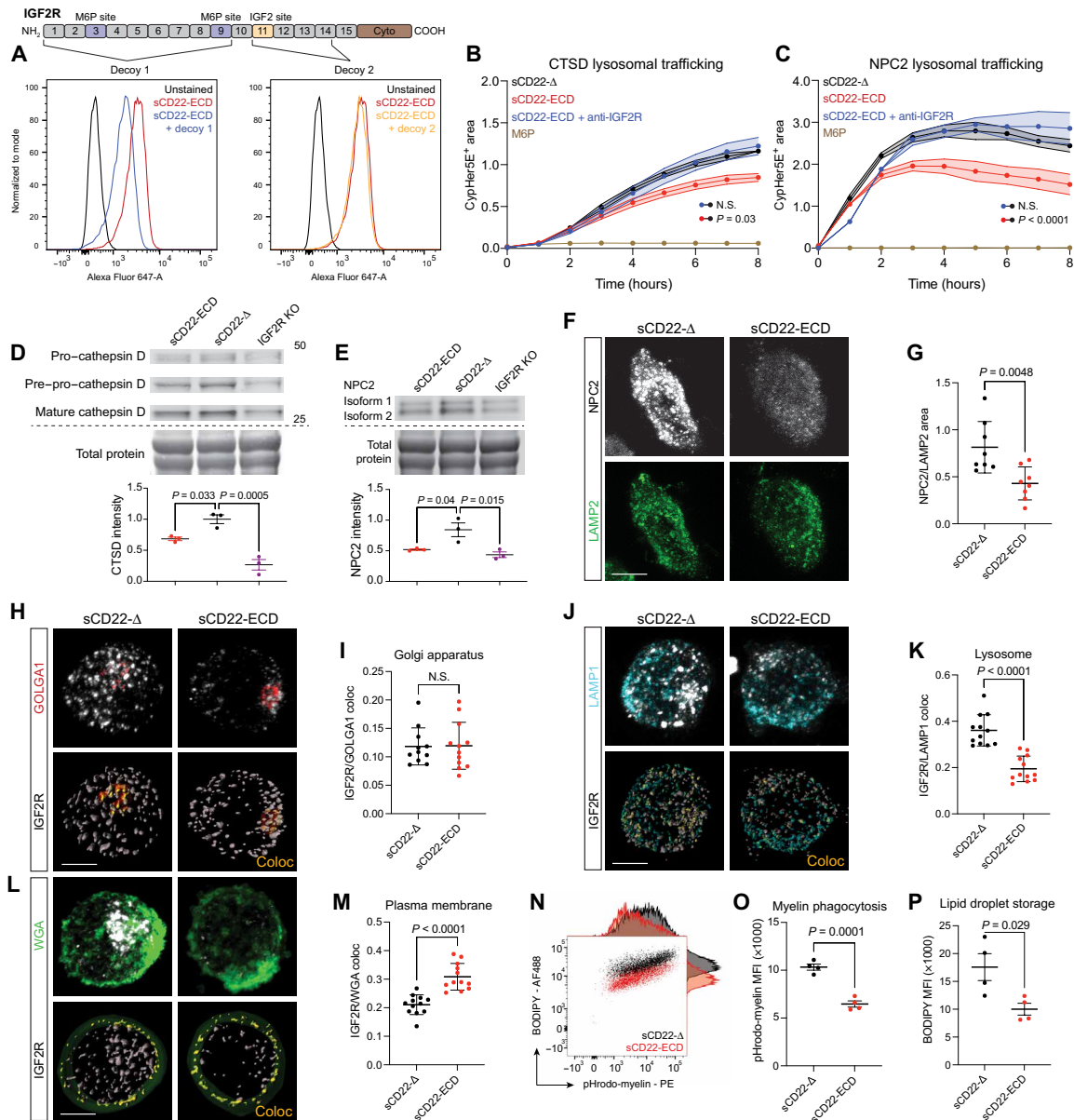


Fig. 3. CD22 impairs M6P-dependent lysosomal trafficking. (A) Flow cytometry analysis of U937 cells stained with sCD22-ECD alone (red) or sCD22 precomplexed with a decoy peptide comprising the M6P-binding sites (blue) or the IGF2 site (orange) on IGF2R. (B) Time-lapse fluorescence microscopy analysis of cathepsin D trafficking to lysosomes in U937 cells treated with sCD22-Δ (black), sCD22-ECD (red), sCD22-ECD, and anti-IGF2R (blue) or saturating amounts of M6P (brown) ($n = 3$, ANOVA, means \pm SEM). N.S., not significant. (C) Time-lapse fluorescence microscopy analysis of NPC2 trafficking to lysosomes in U937 cells treated with sCD22-Δ (black), sCD22-ECD (red), sCD22-ECD and anti-IGF2R (blue), or saturating amounts of M6P (brown) ($n = 2$, ANOVA, means \pm SEM). (D) Western blot analysis of CTSD proteoform expression in WT and IGF2R KO U937 cells treated with sCD22-ECD or sCD22-Δ for 24 hours. Equal loading was confirmed across lanes by total protein stain ($n = 3$, one-way ANOVA, means \pm SEM). (E) Western blot analysis of NPC2 expression in WT and IGF2R KO U937 cells treated with sCD22-ECD or sCD22-Δ for 24 hours. Equal loading was confirmed across lanes by total protein stain ($n = 3$, one-way ANOVA, means \pm SEM). (F) Representative images of NPC2 (gray) and LAMP2 (green) expression in U937 cells treated with sCD22-Δ or sCD22-ECD. Scale bar, 5 μm. (G) Proportion of NPC2⁺ area to LAMP2⁺ area in U937 cells treated with sCD22-Δ or full-length sCD22-ECD ($n = 8$, t test, means \pm SD). (H) Representative images of IGF2R (gray) colocalization (Coloc) (yellow) with the Golgi marker GOLGA1 (red) in U937 cells treated with sCD22-Δ or sCD22-ECD. Scale bar, 5 μm. (I) Proportion of IGF2R localized to the Golgi in U937 cells treated with sCD22-Δ or sCD22-ECD ($n = 3$ biological replicates, three to four cells quantified per replicate, t test, means \pm SD). (J) Representative images of IGF2R (gray) colocalization (yellow) with the lysosomal marker LAMP1 (cyan) in U937 cells treated with sCD22-Δ or sCD22-ECD. Scale bar, 5 μm. (K) Proportion of IGF2R localized to the lysosome in U937 cells treated with sCD22-Δ or sCD22-ECD ($n = 3$ biological replicates, two to three cells quantified per replicate, t test, means \pm SD). (L) Representative images of IGF2R (gray) colocalization (yellow) with wheat germ agglutinin (WGA) cell surface staining (green) in U937 cells treated with sCD22-Δ or sCD22-ECD. Scale bar, 5 μm. (M) Proportion of IGF2R localized to the cell surface in U937 cells treated with sCD22-Δ or sCD22-ECD ($n = 3$ biological replicates, three to four cells quantified per replicate, t test, means \pm SD). (N) Flow cytometry analysis of iMGLs treated with sCD22-Δ or sCD22-ECD, incubated with pHrodo-myelin for 24 hours, and stained with BODIPY, with corresponding histograms. (O) Quantification of phagocytosis by pHrodo-myelin mean fluorescence intensity (MFI) in iMGLs treated with sCD22-Δ or sCD22-ECD ($n = 4$, t test, means \pm SEM). (P) Quantification of lipid droplet storage by BODIPY MFI in iMGLs treated with sCD22-Δ or sCD22-ECD ($n = 4$, t test, means \pm SEM).

panel of 32 commercially available CD22 mAbs, and none exhibited any substantial effect on sCD22 binding to IGF2R (table S3). Therefore, we set out to generate blocking mAbs optimized for targeting sCD22 in the brain.

We immunized three cohorts of mice with the human CD22 ECD, confirmed high serum titers against a CD22-expressing cell line (fig. S4A) and specificity against a CD22-null cell line (fig. S4B), and isolated B cells for hybridoma fusion (Fig. 4A). Next, we selected 50 clones for intermediate to high CD22 binding, capturing a diversity of antibody phenotypes. Last, we screened a subset of 38 clones for their ability to block sCD22 binding to the surface of U937 cells. These screens yielded three promising mAbs with strong and specific CD22 binding and potent blockade of sCD22 (Fig. 4B). These clones had no effect on sCD22 binding to *IGF2R* KO cells (fig. S4C), indicating specific disruption of the CD22-IGF2R interaction.

To characterize the biophysical properties of these three candidate mAbs, we performed biolayer interferometry at various concentrations (fig. S4D) to obtain a global kinetic fit and found that each clone bound CD22 with nanomolar affinity (Fig. 4C). We selected clone M42 as our lead candidate for its potent blockade of the CD22-IGF2R interaction (Fig. 4D) and rescue of NPC2 lysosomal trafficking in U937 cells (Fig. 4E).

With this tool in hand, we sought to evaluate the therapeutic potential of sCD22 blockade in NPC. Although *Npc1*^{-/-} and *Npc1* (I1061T) mice (53) are valuable models that recapitulate many features of the human disease, they are not suitable for evaluating CD22 function given divergent expression patterns and signaling mechanisms in mice versus humans (fig. S1, H and I). Therefore, we used iMGLs that transcriptionally and functionally resemble human microglia (54–56). Relevant for our study, iMGLs express *IGF2R* (fig. S4E) and *ST6GAL1* (fig. S4F) and bind sCD22 in a sialic acid-dependent manner (Fig. 1H). To model the genetic defects of NPC, we introduced the most common NPC patient mutation, NPC1 I1061T, into iPSCs by CRISPR-Cas9-directed homologous recombination (Fig. 4F). Mutant iPSCs displayed ~50% reduction in NPC1 protein expression (Fig. 4G), in line with prior studies showing that I1061T encodes a misfolded protein that is rapidly degraded (57). Upon differentiation to iMGLs, the mutant line formed numerous large LAMP2⁺ lysosomes (fig. S5A) and massively accumulated unesterified cholesterol (Fig. 4, H and I), recapitulating the cellular hallmark of NPC. Last, to model the microglial environment and provide a physiological source of sCD22, we treated iMGLs with CSF from patients with NPC. Combining these three elements (iMGLs, I1061T mutation, and NPC patient CSF), we arrived at an in vitro model of microglia in NPC relevant for human studies (Fig. 4J).

Compared to an isotype control antibody, anti-CD22 (clone M42) reduced the burden of unesterified cholesterol deposits in mutant iMGLs (Fig. 4, K to M). This restoration of lysosomal cholesterol homeostasis was accompanied by decreased LAMP2⁺ lysosome accumulation (Fig. 4N), reverting I1061T iMGLs back toward the phenotype of their isogenic WT counterparts (fig. S5A). We found similar alleviation of cholesterol accumulation using WT iMGLs treated with U18666A, a specific inhibitor of NPC1 (fig. S5, B to E) (58). However, anti-CD22 treatment in U18666A cells increased LAMP2 expression (fig. S5F), indicative of distinct biological responses between pharmacologically inhibited and genetically mutated NPC1.

Microglia display profound transcriptional changes in states of impaired lysosomal function such as aging (18, 59), neurodegeneration (60–62), and LSDs (12, 63). We performed RNA-seq on WT

and I1061T mutant iMGLs treated with NPC CSF and anti-CD22 or an isotype control antibody. Compared to its minimal effect in WT iMGLs, CD22 blockade broadly altered the transcriptome in I1061T mutant cells (Fig. 4O and tables S4 and S5). Specifically, anti-CD22 treatment down-regulated unfolded protein and stress response genes and up-regulated cholesterol and sphingolipid metabolism genes, partially shifting I1061T mutant iMGLs to a WT transcriptional state (Fig. 4, O and P). Anti-CD22 treatment led to the down-regulation of class II human leukocyte antigen (HLA) presentation genes beyond the low expression seen in isotype-treated I1061T iMGLs (Fig. 4O). This transcriptional change could reflect decreased antigen presentation capacity or negative feedback upon restoration of class II HLA trafficking in unburdened lysosomes. Enrichment analysis revealed that CD22 blockade decreased expression of genes associated with endolysosomal transport and increased expression of genes associated with lipid droplet localization (Fig. 4Q). Together, these findings characterize the kinetics, function, and proof-of-principle efficacy of a microglia-directed immunotherapeutic for NPC.

CD22 blockade does not disrupt oligodendrocyte maturation in vitro

Although blockade of sCD22 may be a viable therapeutic strategy to restore microglial function in patients with NPC, the potential on-target toxicity of blocking membrane-bound CD22 on oligodendrocytes may limit its clinical safety. To assess this risk, we isolated and cultured O4⁺ OPCs from primary human cortical tissue at postconception weeks (PCWs) 20 to 22 for in vitro differentiation to myelinating oligodendrocytes (Fig. 5A) using a previously published protocol (64). After 12 days in culture, at a time point when the cells expressed both myelin basic protein (MBP) and CD22 (Fig. 5B), we treated the cells with anti-CD22, an isotype control antibody, or an anti-MOG antibody known to cause demyelination in vitro (65). In contrast to anti-MOG, treatment with anti-CD22 did not affect oligodendrocyte proliferation or maturation as assessed by time-lapse microscopy (Fig. 5, C and D) and MBP immunofluorescence (Fig. 5, E and F). These results mitigate on-target toxicity concerns of using intrathecal CD22 antibodies to treat NPC.

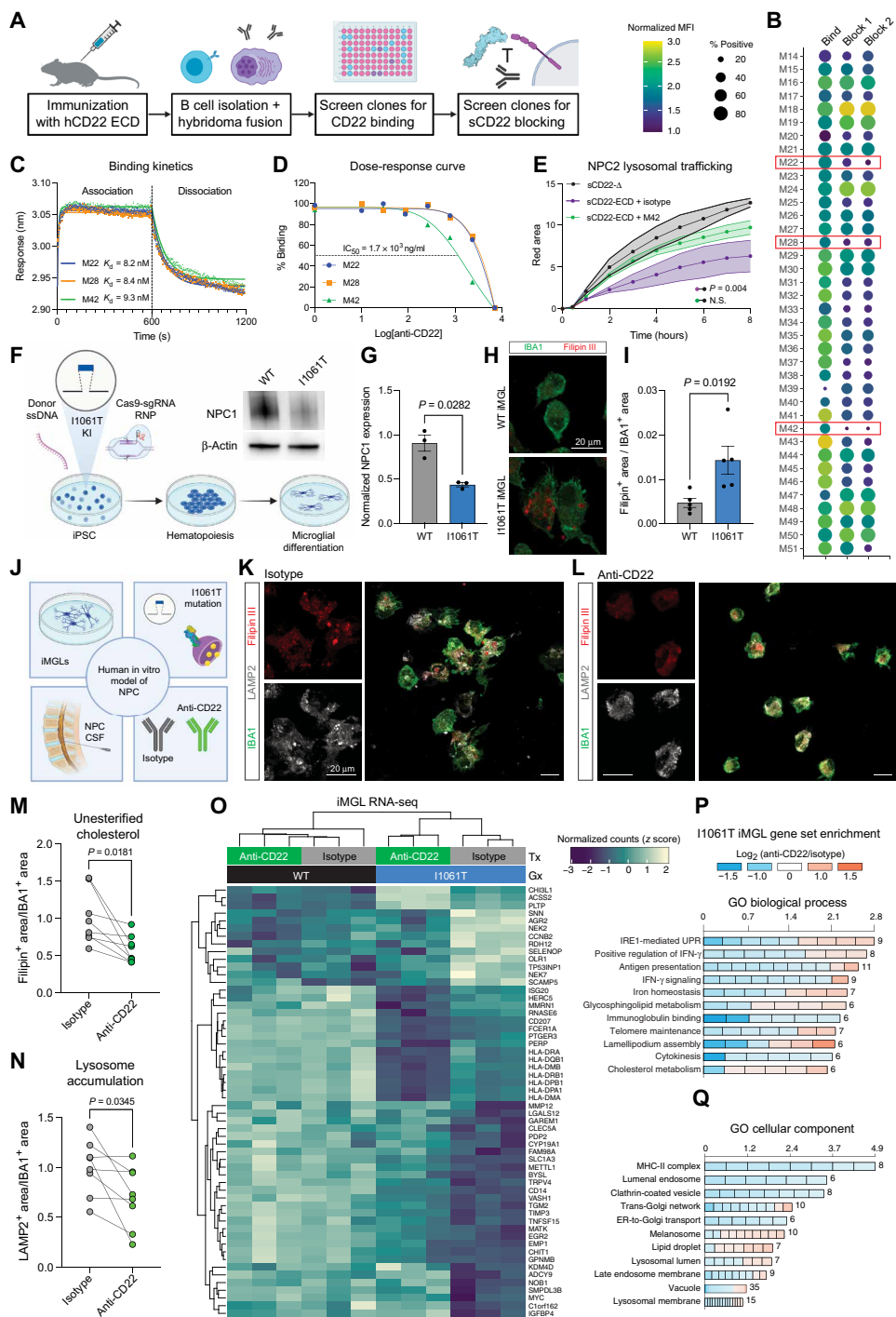
DISCUSSION

Here, we uncover a source, target, and function of sCD22 in the human brain. Specifically, we find that sCD22 is an oligodendrocyte-derived protein that binds IGF2R on microglia and impairs lysosome function. We apply these findings to NPC, where sCD22 is elevated in the CSF, and show that a CD22-blocking mAb ameliorates lysosome dysfunction in NPC1-mutant iMGLs without harming oligodendrocytes in vitro.

These findings highlight important differences between mice and humans with specific implications for translational microglia research. A cross-species RNA-seq study showed unexpected divergence of primate and rodent microglia, with notable differences in the expression of phagocytosis and complement genes (20). Moreover, the overlap of mouse and human microglial responses to neurodegeneration remains controversial (66–68). Although CD22 is highly conserved at the sequence level, we find a soluble form expressed in oligodendrocytes in humans but a membrane-bound form in microglia in mice. CD22 is expressed in both cell types in nonhuman primates, indicative of an evolutionary shift. These differences illuminate some limitations of mouse models to study microglia in

Fig. 4. Generation of a CD22 antibody that ameliorates lysosome dysfunction. (A) Schematic of mAb generation and screening pipeline. (B) Screening results of 38 mAb clones for binding to CD22 (first column) and blocking of sCD22 to IGF2R on cell surface (second and third columns are two independent experiments). Three clones with adequate binding and potent blocking are highlighted (M22, M28, and M42).

(C) Association-dissociation curves of antibody candidates binding to CD22 determined by biolayer interferometry. (D) Dose-response curves of CD22-IGF2R blockade by antibody candidates determined by flow cytometry. IC₅₀, median inhibitory concentration. (E) Time-lapse fluorescence microscopy analysis of NPC2 trafficking to lysosomes in U937 cells treated with sCD22-Δ (gray), sCD22-ECD and an isotype control antibody (purple), or sCD22-ECD and clone M42 (green) (n = 2, ANOVA, means ± SEM). (F) Schematic of pipeline to generate isogenic WT and I1061T mutant iMGLs from iPSCs edited by CRISPR-Cas9-directed homologous recombination. After introduction of donor single-stranded DNA (ssDNA) by electroporation, a homozygous T3182C nucleotide substitution was confirmed by Sanger sequencing. NPC1 reduction was confirmed by Western blot. Mutant and isogenic control iPSCs were subsequently directed toward a hematopoietic lineage and differentiated into microglia-like cells. (G) Western blot quantification of NPC1 expression normalized to a loading control (β-actin) in WT and I1061T mutant iPSCs (n = 3, t test, means ± SEM). (H) Representative images of WT and I1061T mutant iMGLs stained for Filipin III (red, unesterified cholesterol) and IBA1 (green, microglia marker). Scale bar, 20 μm. (I) Quantification of Filipin-positive area normalized to total IBA1-positive area in WT (gray) and I1061T mutant (blue) iMGLs (n = 5 biological replicates, t test, means ± SEM). (J) Schematic of human in vitro model of microglia in NPC. Three components (iPSC-derived microglia, I1061T patient mutation, and NPC patient CSF) were combined to test the proof-of-principal in vitro efficacy of anti-CD22 in NPC. (K) Representative images of I1061T mutant iMGLs treated with NPC CSF and an isotype control antibody stained for Filipin III (red, unesterified cholesterol), LAMP2 (gray, lysosome marker), and IBA1 (green, microglia marker). Scale bars, 20 μm. (L) Representative images of I1061T mutant iMGLs treated with NPC CSF and anti-CD22 stained for Filipin III (red, unesterified cholesterol), LAMP2 (gray, lysosome marker), and IBA1 (green, microglia marker). Scale bars, 20 μm. (M) Quantification of Filipin-positive area normalized to total IBA1-positive area in isotype (gray)- and anti-CD22 (green)-treated iMGLs (n = 7 biological replicates, paired t test, means ± SEM; lines connect wells treated with the same patient's CSF). (N) Quantification of LAMP2-positive area normalized to total IBA1-positive area in isotype (gray)- and anti-CD22 (green)-treated iMGLs (n = 7 biological replicates, paired t test, means ± SEM; lines connect wells treated with the same patient's CSF). (O) Heatmap of normalized counts (z score) for differentially expressed genes in WT and I1061T mutant iMGLs treated with NPC CSF and isotype or anti-CD22. (P) Gene Ontology (GO) biological process enrichment analysis of differentially expressed genes between anti-CD22- and isotype-treated I1061T iMGLs. Up- or down-regulation is represented on the color scale, and the number of genes differentially expressed is indicated for each term. IRE1, inositol-requiring enzyme 1; IFN-γ, interferon-γ; UPR, unfolded protein response. (Q) GO cellular component enrichment analysis of differentially expressed genes between anti-CD22- and isotype-treated I1061T iMGLs. Up- or down-regulation is represented on the color scale, and the number of genes differentially expressed is indicated for each term. MHC-II, major histocompatibility complex class II; ER, endoplasmic reticulum.



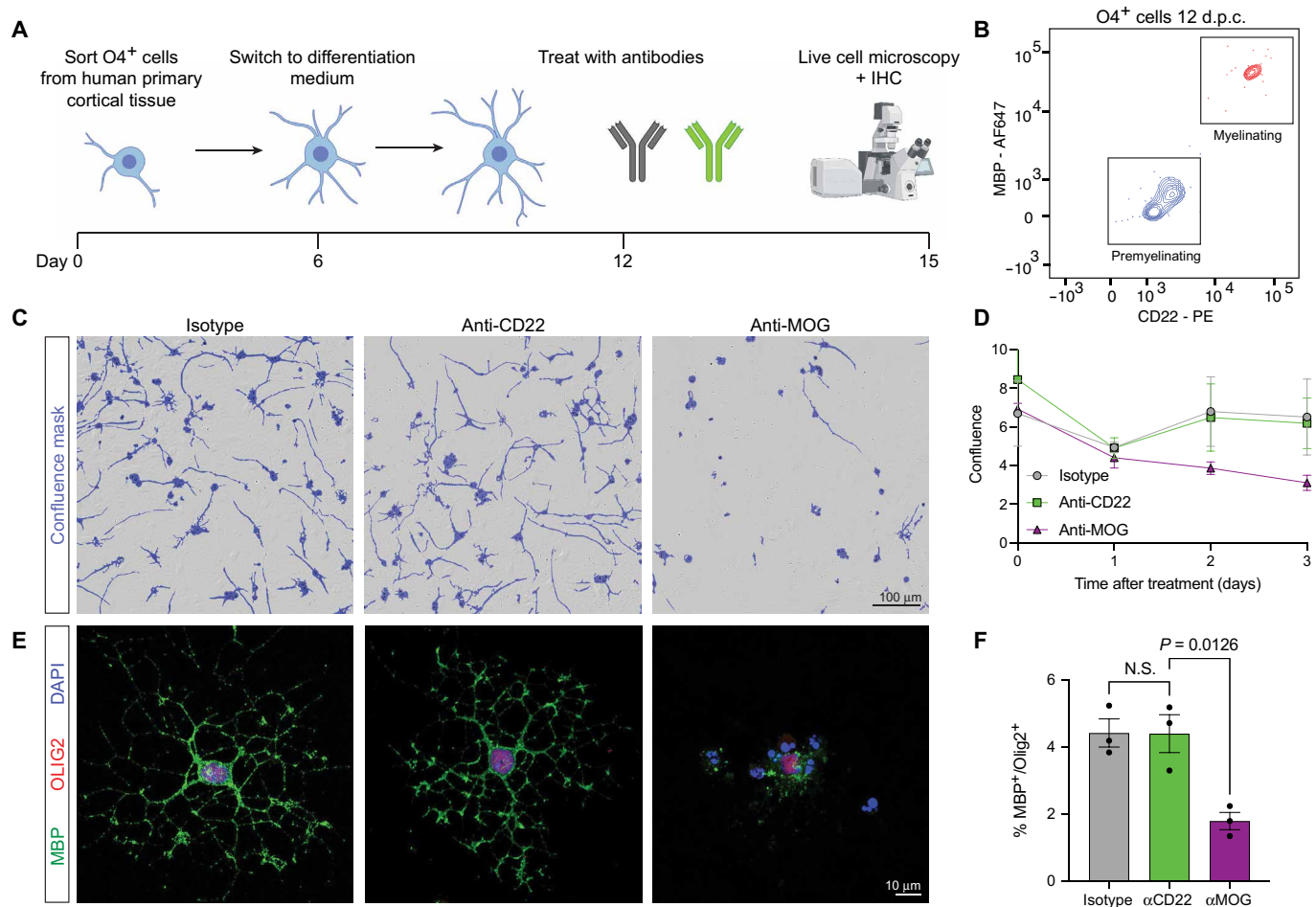


Fig. 5. CD22 blockade does not disrupt oligodendrocyte maturation in vitro. (A) Schematic of human primary cortical oligodendrocyte isolation and differentiation protocol [adapted from (64)]. IHC, immunohistochemistry. (B) Representative flow cytometry of O4⁺ cells after 12 days in culture (d.p.c.) at the onset of antibody treatment, showing a mixed population of premyelinating O4⁺MBP⁻CD22⁻ cells (blue) and a subpopulation of myelinating O4⁺MBP⁺CD22⁺ oligodendrocytes (red). (C) Representative bright-field images of isotype-, anti-CD22-, and anti-MOG-treated oligodendrocytes on day 15 after isolation (day 3 after treatment). Confluence mask overlaid in purple. Scale bar, 100 μm. (D) Quantification of confluence in isotype (gray)-, anti-CD22 (green)-, and anti-MOG (purple)-treated cells assessed by time-lapse microscopy over 3 days ($n = 3$ from two separate primary tissue samples, means \pm SEM). (E) Representative immunofluorescence images of isotype-, anti-CD22-, and anti-MOG-treated oligodendrocytes on day 15 after isolation (day 3 after treatment), stained for MBP (green), and OLIG2 (red). Scale bar, 10 μm. DAPI, 4',6-diamidino-2-phenylindole. (F) Quantification of MBP⁺ cells among OLIG2⁺ nuclei in isotype (gray)-, anti-CD22 (green)-, and anti-MOG (purple)-treated cells ($n = 3$ from two separate primary tissue samples, one-way ANOVA, means \pm SEM).

human disease and reinforce the utility of humanized models for target discovery and drug development.

How does CD22 blockade restore cholesterol efflux in NPC1-defective cells? NPC1 is thought to be the dominant exporter of cholesterol from the lysosome, but parallel pathways exist through LIMP-2/SCARB2 (69), LAMP-1 (70), LAMP-2 (71), and the compensatory effect of NPC2 overexpression (72). CD22 blockade may augment the activity or lysosomal delivery of one of these alternate proteins, providing an escape pathway for cholesterol clearance in NPC1-mutant cells.

The present study focuses on the soluble form of CD22, but the function of membrane-bound CD22 on oligodendrocytes remains unknown. One clue to its function comes from the specific expression of CD22 on myelinating, but not premyelinating, oligodendrocytes. In mice, deletion of SHP-1, the downstream signaling partner of CD22, impairs oligodendrocyte differentiation and myelination

(73). In humans, CD22 may facilitate SHP-1-dependent myelination. Accordingly, CD22 up-regulation in NPC may be a compensatory mechanism to overcome hypomyelination (50, 74) and oligodendrocyte maturation defects (75) caused by NPC1 mutations. How do oligodendrocytes release CD22 into the CSF? It is possible that oligodendrocytes shed sCD22 via proteolytic cleavage, secrete sCD22 as a transmembrane-null isoform (76), or package sCD22 into exosomes along with cholesterol (77, 78). Why CD22 expression was co-opted by oligodendrocytes in humans remains unclear but may be related to the protracted period of myelination in the human CNS compared to other mammals (79), requiring additional regulatory machinery. Our CD22 mAb does not alter oligodendrocyte proliferation or maturation in vitro, mitigating safety concerns without obviating the need for future in vivo toxicity studies.

We acknowledge several limitations of the present study. First, we were unable to assess in vivo efficacy of anti-CD22 in an NPC

model given evolutionary divergence of CD22 expression between mice and humans. One possibility to address this limitation is the feline model of NPC, which might more closely mirror human CD22 expression patterns (80). Second, we rely on pharmacological manipulations of CD22, which may have off-target effects. A rapidly expanding genetic toolbox may facilitate more precise therapeutic targeting moving forward (81). Last, although we roughly map an interaction between the sialic acid-binding domain of CD22 and the M6P-binding domain of IGF2R, a high-resolution structural characterization of this interaction is lacking.

Among investigational drugs for NPC (82–85), the cholesterol solubilizer 2-hydroxypropyl- β -cyclodextrin (HP β CD) slowed disease progression in a phase 1/2 clinical trial (86). HP β CD slightly reduces sCD22 concentration in NPC CSF (12), which may indirectly contribute to its efficacy. Direct blockade of sCD22 may halt both microglial activation and the neurodegeneration that accompanies it. Gene therapy to restore WT NPC1 expression in neurons holds clinical promise (87), but viral transduction of microglia remains a challenging problem (88). Because sCD22 impairs exogenous lysosomal protein trafficking via IGF2R, CD22 blockade might serve as an adjuvant for ERT in other LSDs. Beyond LSDs, the CD22-IGF2R interaction may link lysosome dysfunction to lipid accumulation and microglial activation to oligodendrocyte demyelination in more common neurodegenerative diseases. Future investigations of the breadth and depth to which sCD22 impairs lysosome function in the human brain will inform the therapeutic potential of CD22-blocking mAbs.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study design

The aims of this study were (i) to characterize the expression, function, and mechanism of CD22 in the human brain; (ii) to develop CD22-targeting therapeutics; and (iii) to test these therapeutics in an *in vitro* iPSC-derived model of NPC microglia. Sample sizes, when not limited by human sample availability, were chosen on the basis of similar studies in the literature. All experiments included appropriate negative controls and, when available, validated positive controls. No data were excluded, all outliers are shown as individual data points, and end points were predetermined before initiation of experiments. None of the experiments in this study required randomization, and all immunohistochemical quantifications were performed by blinded observers. Experiments were performed with technical and biological replicates (exact number specified in the figure legends) and, when possible, validated with orthogonal techniques.

Patient samples

NPC patient CSF samples were collected at the Rush University Medical Center pursuant to institutional review board approval.

RNAscope *in situ* hybridization

RNA *in situ* hybridization was performed on fresh frozen brain tissue using the multiplex fluorescent v2 assay (Advanced Cell Diagnostics) according to the manufacturer's protocol. Probes for CD22, MOG, and AIF1 were commercially available from the manufacturer.

Preparation of fluorescent proteins

Recombinant His-tagged human CD22 (R&D Systems, 10191-SL) was incubated with Alexa Fluor 647 (AF647) N-hydroxysuccinimide

(NHS) in phosphate-buffered saline (PBS) with 0.1 M sodium bicarbonate for 1 hour at room temperature at a dye:protein ratio of 4. Excess dye was removed and buffer was exchanged using a 40K molecular weight cut-off (MWCO) Zeba spin desalting column. NPC2 or cathepsin D were tagged with CypHer5E NHS using an equivalent protocol except buffer exchanged with a 7K MWCO Zeba spin desalting column.

Quantitative flow cytometry analysis of human primary cortical brain cells

Deidentified tissue samples were obtained at Stanford University School of Medicine under a protocol approved by the Research Compliance Office at Stanford University. Brain tissue samples at PCWs 20 to 22 were delivered on ice and processed within 3 hours of the procedure. Tissue was processed according to a previously published protocol (89) to obtain a single-cell suspension. Cells were stained with the following antibodies on ice for 30 min: anti-CD45 (1:25, clone HI30, BioLegend), anti-O4 (1:20, R&D Systems), anti-IGF2R (1:10, BD Biosciences), anti-CD22 (1:20, clone HIB22, BioLegend), anti-MBP (1:100, clone SMI 99, BioLegend), anti-MAP2 (1:20, SMI 52, BioLegend), and human Fc block (1:20, BD Biosciences). After staining, cells were washed, and relevant populations were analyzed on a BD LSRFortessa. Quantibrite–phycoerythrin (PE) (BD Biosciences) beads were resuspended in FACS buffer and analyzed on a BD LSRFortessa. Using the same laser powers and detector voltages, cortical cells and Ramos cells were analyzed for CD22 expression. A standard curve was constructed to correlate PE intensity with number of PE molecules per Quantibrite bead. Last, molecule numbers on human primary cortical brain cell types were calculated by interpolation.

Flow cytometry analysis of sCD22 binding

Cells were prepared on ice at a concentration of 1 million cells/ml and incubated with directly conjugated CD22–AF647 or precomplexed CD22–Fc anti-human immunoglobulin G (IgG) AF647 at a concentration of 10 μ g/ml for 30 min on ice. As a negative control for the direct staining reagent, cells were incubated with a sialic acid binding–incompetent truncated version of CD22 (sCD22- Δ ; Sino Biological, 11958-H08H1) conjugated to AF647. As a negative control for the precomplexed Fc fusion staining reagent, cells were incubated with anti-human IgG secondary alone. After incubation, cells were washed with PBS and analyzed on a BD LSRFortessa.

Myelin phagocytosis and lipid droplet storage by iMGLs

WT iMGLs were plated at 50% confluence on Matrigel-coated 96-well plates and treated with pHrodo-myelin (555) (10 μ g/ml) and sCD22- Δ or sCD22-ECD (10 μ g/ml). After incubation of 24 hours at 37 min, cells were stained with BODIPY 493/503 (Thermo Fisher Scientific, 1:1000 from a stock solution of 1 mg/ml in DMSO) for 20 min at room temperature protected from light, washed with Dulbecco's PBS, and analyzed on a BD Fortessa X20.

CRISPR-Cas9 screen

The 10-sgRNA-per-gene CRISPR-Cas9 deletion library was synthesized, cloned, and infected into Cas9-expressing U937 cells as previously described (27). Briefly, ~300 million U937 cells in stably expression EF1 α -Cas9-BLAST were infected with the 10 guide/gene sgRNA genome (Addgene, catalog nos. 101926 to 101934) at a multiplicity of infection < 1. Infected cells underwent puromycin selection

(1.5 µg/ml) for 5 days after which puromycin was removed and cells were resuspended in normal growth medium without puromycin. After selection, sgRNA infection was confirmed by flow cytometry, which indicated >90% of cells expressed the mCherry reporter. Sufficient sgRNA library representation was confirmed by deep sequencing after selection. Cells were cultured and maintained at 1000× coverage for 1 week. Staining reagent was prepared by precomplexing recombinant CD22-Fc fusion protein with anti-human IgG AF647 at an equimolar ratio on ice for 30 min. Cells were washed and resuspended at 10 million cells/ml and incubated with precomplex at 10 µg/ml for 30 min on ice. Cells were washed and prepared FACS on a BD FACSAria III. Cells expressing the top 5% (15 million cells) and bottom 5% (15 million cells) of CD22 ligands were sorted for downstream processing. Genomic DNA was extracted for all populations separately using a QIAGEN Blood Midi Kit. Deep sequencing of sgRNA sequences on an Illumina NextSeq was used to monitor library composition. Guide composition was analyzed and compared to the plasmid library and between conditions using casTLE (<https://bitbucket.org/dmorgens/castle>). Briefly, casTLE compares each set of gene-targeting guides to the negative controls, comprising nontargeting and nongenic (“safe-targeting”) sgRNAs, which have been shown to more aptly control for on-target toxicity due to endonuclease-induced DNA damage. The enrichment of individual guides was calculated as the log ratio between high and low populations, and gene-level effects were calculated from 10 guides targeting each gene. *P* values were then calculated by permutating the targeting guides.

Electrophoretic mobility shift assay

rCD22 was prelabeled using NHS-AF647 as described above. A binding reaction (10 µl) consisting of 100 ng of rCD22-AF647 with 0×, 1×, or 3× molar equivalents of IGF2R-N-term in 1× EMSA buffer [10 mM Hepes (pH 7.5), 20 mM KCl, 1 mM MgCl₂, and 1 mM dithiothreitol] was incubated at 25°C for 60 min to allow binding. To visualize complex formation, 1 µl of 50% glycerol was added to each sample and then run in a 4% native polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (PAGE) at 100 V. After electrophoresis, gels were directly scanned on a LI-COR Odyssey in the 700 nm channel.

Biolayer interferometry

Fortebio Octet anti-mouse Fc capture biosensors were loaded with CD22 mAb supernatant and associated into recombinant His-tagged human CD22 ECD analyte at seven different concentrations (100 nM, serially diluted 1:3). Binding constants and global fits were calculated for the association and dissociation of the analyte according to the manufacturer’s protocol. For CD22-IGF2R kinetic analysis, anti-human Fc capture biosensors were loaded with recombinant human CD22 Fc-fusion protein (R&D Systems) and associated into recombinant His-tagged human IGF2R analyte at seven different concentrations (1000 nM, serially diluted 1:3). Unloaded parallel reference sensors were used to monitor and subtract background interactions between analytes and sensor.

Western blot

Cell lysates were prepared by resuspending and incubating cell pellets on ice in RIPA Lysis Buffer with cOmplete protease inhibitor cocktail and spun at 17,000g for 10 min. The supernatant was collected, and protein concentration was measured with the Pierce BCA Protein Assay Kit (Thermo Fisher Scientific). An aliquot containing 20 µg of

protein from each sample was mixed with 4× loading buffer (Thermo Fisher Scientific), 2.5% beta-mercaptoethanol (MilliporeSigma), and boiled for 5 min at 95°C before being subjected to SDS-PAGE and transferred to a nitrocellulose membrane (Bio-Rad). The membrane was first stained for total protein with Revert (LI-COR). The membrane was destained, blocked with Intercept Blocking Buffer (LI-COR), and stained overnight at 4°C with primary antibodies at the designated concentrations: rabbit anti-NPC2 (1:1000; R&D Systems, AF8644), rabbit anti-CTSD [1:1000; Cell Signaling Technology (CST), 2284S], or rabbit anti-LC3B (1:1000; CST, 2775S). The membrane was washed, stained with IRDye-conjugated secondary antibodies (1:15,000, LI-COR), and imaged on the Odyssey CLx (LI-COR).

Exogenous lysosomal protein recapture assay

Recombinant His-tagged CTSD (R&D Systems, 1014-AS) or NPC2 (Sino Biological, 13341-H08H) was conjugated to CypHer5E NHS (GE Life Sciences) as described above. U937 cells were pretreated with sCD22-ECD (10 µg/ml), sCD22-Δ (10 µg/ml), sCD22-ECD and anti-IGF2R (10 µg/ml; Abcam, ab124767), or 500 mM M6P for 30 min in Dulbecco’s modified Eagle’s medium (DMEM) with L-glutamine and 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS) at 37°. After pretreatment, CypHer5E-conjugated lysosomal proteins were added at 0.5 µg/ml, and fluorescence was monitored for 8 hours by time-lapse fluorescence microscopy (Incucyte S3).

Immunocytochemistry

U937 cells were grown on poly-L-lysine-coated eight-well chambered coverslips (ibidi GmbH) in DMEM with L-glutamine and 10% FBS in the presence of 10 µg/ml sCD22-ECD or sCD22-delta for 24 hours. For surface staining, live cells were stained with wheat germ agglutinin (WGA)-fluorescein (1:100, Vector Laboratories) for 30 min on ice before fixation. Cells were gently washed and fixed onto the chamber slide with 4% paraformaldehyde at room temperature for 15 min. After 1 hour of blocking and permeabilization in PBS with 0.05% Triton X-100 and 1% bovine serum albumin (BSA), cells were stained with the following combinations of primary antibodies in the same blocking medium at 4° overnight: rabbit anti-NPC2 (1:100; R&D Systems, AF8644) and mouse anti-LAMP2 (1:100; Santa Cruz Biotechnology, H4B4); mouse anti-IGF2R (1:100; Abcam, 2G11) and rabbit anti-Rab7 (1:100; Abcam, ab126712); mouse anti-IGF2R and rabbit anti-Golgin-97 (1:100; CST, D8P2K); mouse anti-IGF2R and rabbit anti-TGN46 (1:100; Abcam, 174280); mouse anti-IGF2R and rabbit anti-EEA1 (1:100; CST, C45B10); and mouse anti-IGF2R and rabbit anti-LAMP1 (1:100; CST, D2D11). Cells were then washed and stained with secondary antibodies (1:250, Thermo Fisher Scientific) for 2 hours. Filipin III (0.2 mg/ml; MilliporeSigma) staining was performed concurrently with secondary staining. Cells were mounted with VECTASHIELD Vibrance Antifade Mounting Medium (Vector Laboratories) before imaging on a confocal laser scanning microscope (Zeiss LSM 900).

Subcellular colocalization analysis

Images were analyzed using Imaris (Bitplane). Briefly, a surface was created for organelle signals (WGA, GOLGA1, RAB7, EEA1, TGN46, and LAMP1). This surface was used as a mask for the IGF2R channel. Surfaces were created for IGF2R in the masked channel and for total IGF2R. The colocalization index was taken as a ratio of the total volumes of these two surfaces.

Antibody generation

Three cohorts (Balb/c with alhydrogel adjuvant, Balb/c with Ribi adjuvant, and NZBW with alhydrogel adjuvant) of three mice each were immunized with recombinant His-tagged human CD22 ECD (R&D Systems). Serum titers against CD22-expressing and CD22-KO Ramos cells were checked on day 21. Splenocytes from mice with high serum titers were isolated on day 28 and subjected to hybridoma fusion. Supernatants from hybridoma libraries were screened against CD22-expressing cells, and libraries with high titers were clone sorted into plates. Of ~1400 clones, 38 were selected for intermediate to high CD22 binding and assayed for sCD22 blocking. Briefly, WT of IGF2R KO U937 cells were incubated with fluorescently labeled sCD22 in the presence of each anti-CD22 clone (3 µg/ml). Cells were analyzed by flow cytometry, and clones that efficiently blocked sCD22 binding to WT but not IGF2R KO cells were selected for downstream analysis. These three clones (M22, M28, and M42) were subjected to biolayer interferometry to calculate a dissociation constant and dose-dependent sCD22 blocking to calculate median inhibitory concentration. These screens yielded M42 as a candidate based on strong and specific CD22 binding and on strong and specific sCD22 blocking.

Differentiation of human microglia-like cells from iPSCs

iMGLs were differentiated according to a previously published protocol (55). Briefly, iPSCs were differentiated to hematopoietic progenitor cells using the STEMdiff Hematopoietic kit for 10 to 15 days before passage into microglia differentiation medium including DMEM/F12, 2× insulin transferrin-selenite, 2× B27, 0.5× N2, 1× glutamax, 1× nonessential amino acids, 400 µM monothio glycerol, and human insulin (5 µg/ml). Cultures were maintained in this basal medium supplemented with interleukin-34 (100 ng/ml), transforming growth factor-β1 (TGF-β1; 50 ng/ml), and macrophage colony-stimulating factor (25 ng/ml) (PeproTech) for 28 days. For the last 3 days in culture, two additional cytokines were added [CD200 (100 ng/ml, Novoprotein) and CX3CL1 (100 ng/ml, PeproTech)] to mature the microglia in a homeostatic brain-like environment.

iMGL immunocytochemistry

iMGLs were differentiated as described above. Eight-well chamber slides (Millicell) were coated with fibronectin, and iMGLs were plated at 100,000 cells per well in 200 µl of the aforementioned microglia medium without TGF-β. Cells were allowed to attach for 1 hour, and the medium was replaced with fresh medium containing the following treatments: U18666A (5 µM, Tocris), CSF from patients with NPC (10% volume), and mouse IgG1 isotype control (10 µg/ml, MOPC21, BioXCell) or mouse IgG1 anti-human CD22-blocking antibody (10 µg/ml, M42). After incubation for 24 hours at 37°, cells were gently washed with PBS, fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde for 15 min at room temperature, and gently permeabilized with 0.05% Triton X-100 in PBS with 1% BSA for 10 min at 4°. Cells were then washed to remove detergent and blocked with PBS containing 1% BSA for 1 hour at room temperature. Primary antibodies (mouse anti-LAMP2, 1:100; Santa Cruz Biotechnology, sc-18822; goat anti-IBA1, 1:200; Abcam, ab5076) were added in blocking buffer and incubated overnight at 4°. Cells were washed with PBS and incubated with blocking solution containing the following components for 1 hour at room temperature: donkey anti-mouse IgG AF647 (1:400, Thermo Fisher Scientific), donkey anti-goat IgG Alexa Fluor 488 (1:400, Thermo Fisher Scientific), Filipin III (0.2 mg/ml,

Sigma-Aldrich). Slides were dried for 2 hours in the dark, coverslipped with fluoromount, dried overnight, and imaged using the Olympus FV3000RS confocal microscope.

iMGL bulk RNA-seq samples

Eight-well chamber slides (Millicell) were coated with fibronectin, and WT and I1061T mutant iMGLs were plated at 100,000 cells per well in 200 µl of the aforementioned microglia medium without TGF-β. Cells were allowed to attach for 1 hour, and the medium was replaced with fresh medium containing CSF from patients with NPC (10% volume) and mouse IgG1 isotype control (10 µg/ml, MOPC21, BioXCell) or mouse IgG1 anti-human CD22 blocking antibody (10 µg/ml, M42). After incubation for 24 hours at 37°, total RNA was isolated using an RNeasy Micro Plus kit (Qiagen). A total of 100,000 iMGLs were lysed in 350 µl of RLT buffer containing β-mercaptoethanol, and RNA was isolated per the manufacturer's instructions. RNA integrity was assessed on a Bioanalyzer (Agilent), and high-quality samples were used for library preparation. Complementary DNA synthesis and amplification was performed using the SmartSeq v.4 Ultra-low input kit (Takara), and libraries were tagged, adaptor-ligated, and indexed using the Nextera XT kit (Illumina). After normalization and pooling, libraries were sequenced on a NextSeq 550 (Illumina) using paired-end 150-base pair reads. Libraries were sequenced to a depth of ~20 million reads per sample. Raw sequencing files were demultiplexed with bcl2fastq, reads were trimmed with cutadapt and aligned using STAR, the count matrix was generated using SummarizedExperiment, and differential expression analysis was performed using edgeR using the TidyTranscriptomics package. Gene Ontology enrichment was performed using the TopGO package (Bioconductor) and visualized with the CellPlot package (Dieterich lab).

Statistical analysis

Statistical analyses were performed using GraphPad Prism (v9) or RStudio. Two-sided Student's *t* test was used for two group comparisons, and analysis of variance (ANOVA) with Tukey multiple hypothesis correction was used for three or more group comparisons. Uncertainty is expressed as means ± 2 SDs or SE.

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

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Figs. S1 to S5

Tables S1 to S5

Data file S1

References (90–93)

[View/request a protocol for this paper from Bio-protocol.](#)

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The CD22-IGF2R interaction is a therapeutic target for microglial lysosome dysfunction in Niemann-Pick type C

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Human-specific interaction

Niemann-Pick type C disease (NPC) is a lysosomal storage disorder caused by autosomal recessive mutations in *NPC1* or *NPC2*. Previous data showed that CD22 is increased in the brain of patients with NPC. Now, Pluinage *et al.* studied the role of CD22 in NPC pathophysiology and showed that, whereas CD22 is expressed in microglia in mice, oligodendrocytes seem to be the major source of CD22 in the human brain. Blocking the interaction of CD22 with its partner on microglia, IGF2R, reduced lysosome dysfunction in patient-derived microglia-like cells. The CD22-IGF2R interaction represents a potential therapeutic target for treating NPC-mediated cellular abnormalities.

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