## **Supplemental Information**

Materials. DMEM, Advanced DMEM, RPMI, MEM media, fetal bovine serum (FBS), and Glutamax were purchased from Gibco (USA). Astrocytes medium (AM – Cat. No. 1801) and astrocytes growth supplements were purchased from ScienceCell (USA). Microglia medium (MM – Cat. No. 1901) and microglia growth supplements were purchased from ScienceCell (USA). EndoGRO Basal Medium and supplements kit (SCME001 kit), Hemacolor®Rapid staining (Cat. No. 1119562500/1119572500) were purchased from Merck (Darmstadt, Germany). Dulbecco's phosphate buffer saline (PBS), L-glutamine, penicillin, streptomycin, sodium pyruvate, HEPES, MEM non-essential amino acids (NAA) solution, trypsin mycoplasma detection kit, EZ-RNA II total RNA isolation kit and fibronectin (1 mg/ml; Dilution: 1:100) were purchased from Biological Industries Ltd. (Kibbutz Beit HaEmek, Israel). Percoll solution (Cat. No. p4937) lipopolysaccharide (LPS; Cat. No. L8274), 3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyltetrazolinium bromide (MTT; Cat. No. M2128), β-mercaptoethanol (Cat. No.M6250), latex beads for phagocytosis assays (Cat. No. L4655), methyl cellulose (Cat. No. M0512), EDTA (Cat. No. E5134), Triton-100x (Cat. No. 9002931; Lot. No. 033K01501), Dextran, from Leuconostoc spp. (Cat. No.31390; Lot. 20509147), Tween-20 (Cat. P1379; Lot. No. SLCB6677), Trizma® base (Cat. No. T1503; Lot. No. SLCD9753), acrylamide/bis-acrylamide, 40% solution (Cat. No. A7802; Lot. No. SLBR6765V), formamide (Cat. No. F9037), Evans Blue (Cat. No. 46160; Lot. No. 1185693), and all other chemical reagents, including salts and solvents, were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (Rehovot, Israel). D-(+)-Sucrose (Cat. No. 001922059100), and Glycine (Cat. No. 000713239100; Lot. No. 1303611), and acetone (Cat. No. 000103020500; Lot. No. 1318371) were purchase from Bio-Labs Itd (Jerusalem, Israel). Milli-Q water was prepared using a Millipore water purification system. Amicon Ultra Centrifugal Filters with 3K molecular weight cut-off (Cat. No. UFC900324), bovine albumin serum (BSA), and sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS) (Cat. No. 428018; Lot. No. 2956240) were purchased from Merck Millipore (Burlington, Massachusetts, USA). CellEvent<sup>™</sup> Caspase-3/7 Green ReadyProbes<sup>™</sup> Reagent (Cat. R37111) was purchased from Thermo-Fisher Scientific (Waltham, Massachusetts, USA). ImageLock tissue culture plate (Cat. No. 4379) were purchased from Sartorious (Göttingen, Germany). Sodium azide (Cat. No. 14314) was purchased from Alfa Aesar (Thermo Fisher Scientific, United Kingdom). SuperSignal<sup>™</sup> West Pico Plus chemiluminescent substrate (Cat. No.

34580 Lot. No. UL293523), and Neon<sup>™</sup> transfection system kit (Cat. No. MPK1025) were purchased from Thermo Scientific (Rockford, Illinois, USA). Quick DNA miniprep kit (Cat. No. D3024) was purchased from Zymo Research (Irvine, California, USA). PrimeSTAR MAX (Cat. No. R045B) was purchased from Takara Bio (Mountain View, California, USA). T7 Endonuclease 1 (Cat. No. M0302S) was purchased from New England Biolabs (United Kingdom). The qScript<sup>™</sup> cDNA Synthesis Kit was purchased from Quantabio (Beverly, Massachusetts, USA). Fast SYBR TM green Master Mix was purchased from Applied Biosystems (California, USA). Collagenase IV, Dispase II (neutral protease) and DNase I, were purchased from Worthington Biochemical Corporation (New Jersey, USA). Rat tail collagen type I, growth factors-reduced (GFR) Matrigel<sup>®</sup>, 70 µm nylon strainer, and Transwell® permeable support (Cat. No. 3422) were purchased from Corning® (Glendale, Arizona, USA). RBC lysis solution (Cat. No. 420301) anti-mouse/rat/human MCP-1 neutralizing antibody (Cat. No. 505912; Lot. No. B296185; Clone 2H5) were purchased from BioLegend (San Diego, California, USA). MACS MS magnetic columns for cell separation (Cat. No. 130-042-201), CD11b MicroBeads (Cat. No. 130-093-634), and CD31 MicroBeads (Cat. No. 130-097-418) for cell isolation were purchased from Miltenyi Biotec (Bergisch Gladbach, Germany). 2-[(1-Benzyl-1H-indazol-3-yl)methoxy]-2-methylpropanoic (bindarit; Cat No. 130641-38-2) was purchased Angene Chemical (United Kingdom). Human MCP-1 ELISA kit (Cat. No. DCP00), Mouse MCP-1 ELISA kit (Cat. No. MJE00B) Mouse XL Cytokine Array Kit (Cat. No. ARY028), Human Cytokine Array kit (Cat. No. ARY005B), and hr-bFGF were purchased from R&D Systems (Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA). Recombinant human MCP-1 (rh MCP-1) (Cat. No. 300-04; Lot. No. 090831), recombinant murine MCP-1/JE (rm MCP-1) (Cat. 250-10; Lot. No. 0510126), rabbit anti-murine JE/MCP-1 (Cat. No. 500-P113; Lot. No. 0608M126RB), rabbit anti-murine KC (CXCL1) (Cat. No. 500-P115; Lot. No. 0909M127RB), rabbit anti-murine RANTES (Cat. No. 500-P118; Lot. No. 0406M124RB), rabbit anti-murine MIP-2 (CXCL2) (Cat. No. 500-P130; Lot. No. 091CY152RB) neutralizing antibodies were purchased from PeproTech (Rehovot, Israel). Anti-mouse SERPIN E1 neutralizing antibody (Cat. No. AM26216PU-N; Lot. No. 27379M0819-A) was purchased from Origene (OriGene Tech. GmbH, Herford, Germany). ProLong<sup>®</sup> Gold mounting (Cat. No. P36934) and Hoechst 33342 (Cat. No. H3570) were purchased from Invitrogen (Carlsbad, California, USA). Optimal Cutting Temperature (O.C.T.) compound (Cat. No. 4585) was purchased from Scigen

Scientific (Gardena, California, USA). Normal goat serum (Cat. No. OORA01661; Lot. No. 28653) was purchased from Aviva Systems Biology Corporation (San Diego, California, USA). Paraformaldehyde (PFA) 16% solution (Cat. No. 15710) was purchased from Electron Microscopy Sciences (Hatfield, Pennsylvania, USA). Mayer's Hematoxylin solution (Cat. No. 05-06002) and Eosin Y solution (Cat. No. 05-10002) were purchased from Bio-Optica (Milano, Italy). Primers and siRNA duplex, Alt-R spCas9 Nuclease V3 Cat. No. 1081059), and Alt-R CRISPR-Cas9 sgRNA were purchased from IDT (Jerusalem, Israel). Polyethyleneimine (PEI) transfecting agent was purchased from Polyplus transfection<sup>®</sup> (Illkirch, France). Plasmids: mCherry was subcloned by our group into the pQCXIP vector (Clontech, USA) as previously described (1). Protease/phosphatase inhibitor (100x) (Cat. No. 5872S; Lot. No.19) was purchased from Cell Signaling Technology® (Massachusetts, USA). Magnetol, Gd-DTPA was purchased from Soreg M.R.C. Radiopharmaceuticals (Israel). For animal studies 6-10 week-old male C57BL/6 mice, and 6-8 weeks old male SCID mice were purchased from Envigo CRS (Nes Ziona, Israel).

Antibodies: Primary immunostaining antibodies. Mouse anti-mouse/human MCP-1 (Cat. No. NBP2-22115; Lot. No. B-1; Dilution 1:100), Rabbit anti-mouse/human CCR2 (Cat. No. NBP2-67700; Cat. No. HM0909; Dilution 1:100), Rabbit anti-mouse/human Iba1 (Cat. No. NBP2-19019; Lot. No. 41556; Dilution: 1:200), rabbit anti-mouse/human Ki-67 (Cat. No. NB500-170; Lot. No. G15; Dilution 1:50), Rat anti-mouse F4/80 (BM8, Cat. NBP1-60140; Lot. No. 28094M1219-A; Dilution 1:50 dilution), Rabbit anti-mouse CCR4 (Cat. No. NBP1-86584; Lot. No. B96904) were purchased from Novus (Colorado, USA). Rat anti-mouse CD274 (B7-H1, PD-L1) (Cat. No. 124318; Lot No. B276997; Clone 10F.9G2; Dilution 1:100) was purchased from BioLegend (San Diego, California, USA). Rat anti-mouse CD31 (Cat. No. 550272; Lot. No. 6273859; Dilution 1:25) was purchased from BD Biosciences (Franklin Lakes, NJ, USA). Rat anti-mouse/human CD8 (Cat. No. 14-0808-82; Lot. No. 2003225; Clone 4SMIS; Dilution 1:50) was purchased from eBioscience (San Diego, California, USA). Mouse anti-mouse CD206 (Cat. No. 60143-1-Ig; Lot. No. 10004170; Dilution 1:200), Rabbit anti-mouse/human PD1/CD279 (Cat. No. 60143-1-Ig; Lot. No. 10004170; were purchased from Proteintech (Illinois, USA). Rabbit anti-mouse/human GFAP (Cat. No. Dilution 1:50) was purchased from Proteintech (Illinois, USA). Rabbit anti-mouse/human CCR4 (Cat. No.

PA5-99885; Lot. No. VE2987252; Dilution 1: 100) was purchased from Invitrogen (Carlsbad, California, USA). Rat anti-mouse IL-6 (Cat. No. ab191194; Lot. No. GR3186600-3; Clone MP5-20F3; Dilution 1:100) was purchased from Abcam (Cambridge, United Kingdom).

Secondary immunostaining antibodies: Goat anti-mouse Alexa Fluor® 647 (Cat. No. ab15115; Lot. No. GR309891-3; Dilution 1:300), goat anti-rabbit Alexa Fluor® 488 (Cat. No. ab150077; Lot No. GR315933-2; Dilution 1:300), and goat anti-rabbit Alexa Fluor<sup>®</sup> 647 (Cat. No. Ab150079; Lot. No. Gr3176223-2; Dilution 1:300) were purchased from Abcam (Cambridge, United Kingdom). Goat anti-rat Alexa Fluor<sup>®</sup> 488 (Cat 112-545-068; Lot. No. 143654; Dilution 1:300) and goat antirat Alexa Fluor<sup>®</sup> 647 (Cat. No. 112-605-003; Lot No. 137652; Dilution 1:300) were purchased from Jackson ImmunoResearch Laboratories, Inc. (West Grove, Pennsylvania, USA). Flow cytometry antibodies. Anti-mouse CCR2-APC (Cat. No. 150628; Lot. No. B294911 Clone SA203G11; Dilution 1:100), rat IgG2a, κ isotype control-APC (Cat. No. 150628; Lot. No. B294911 Clone SA203G11; Dilution 1:100), anti-mouse FoxP3-Alexa Fluor® 647 (Cat. No. 126408; Lot. No. B264076; Clone MF-14; Dilution 1:50), rat IgG2b, κ Isotype control-Alexa Fluor<sup>®</sup> 647 (Cat. No. 400626; Lot. No. B243822; Clone RTK4530; Dilution 1:50), anti-mouse CCR4-PE (Cat. No. 131204; Lot. No. B224241; Clone 2G12; Dilution 1:100), rat IgG2b, κ isotype control-PE (Cat. No. 400608; Lot. No. B220932; Clone RTK4530; Dilution 1:100), anti-mouse CD206-PE (Cat. No. 141706; Lot No. B280038; Clone C068C2; Dilution 1:100), mouse IgG1, κ isotype control-PE (Cat. No. 400112; Lot. No. B291605; Clone MOPC-21; Dilution 1:100), anti-mouse CD25-FITC (Cat. No. 101907; Lot. No. B276319; Clone 3C7; Dilution 1:50), rat IgG2b, κ isotype-control FITC (Cat. No. 400633; Lot. No. B210159; Clone RTK4530, Dilution 1:50), anti-mouse CD11c FITC (Cat. No.117305; Lot. No. B244373; Clone N418, Dilution 1:100), Armenian hamster IgG isotype control-FITC (Cat. No. 400905; Lot. No. B256163; Clone HTK888, Dilution 1:100), anti-mouse CD107a (LAMP-1)-Alexa Fluor<sup>®</sup>488 (Cat. No. 121608; Lot. No. B272833; Clone 1D4B; Dilution 1:100), rat IgG2a, κ isotype control-Alexa Fluor<sup>®</sup>488 (Cat. No. 400525; Lot. No. B228070; Clone RTK2758, Dilution 1:100), anti-mouse Ly-6G/Ly-6C (Gr1)-APC (Cat. No. 108411; Lot. No. B262854; Clone RB6-8C5, Dilution 1:100), rat IgG2b, к isotype control-APC (Cat. No. 400611; Lot. No. B261320; Clone RTK4530, Dilution 1:100), anti-mouse/human CD11b-APC/Cyanine7 (Cat. No. 101225; Lot. No. B273856; Clone M1/70, Dilution 1:100), rat IgG2b, κ isotype control-APC/Cyanine7 (Cat. No. 400623; Lot.

No. B248744; Clone RTK4530, Dilution 1:100), anti-mouse CD3ε PerCP/Cyanine5.5 (Cat. No. 100328; Lot. No. B281044; Clone 145-2C11; Dilution 1:50), and Armenian hamster IgG isotype control PerCP/Cyanine5.5 (Cat. No. 400931; Lot. No. B247913; Clone HTK888; Dilution 1:50) were purchased from BioLegend (San Diego, California, USA). Anti-mouse CD3-FITC (Cat. No. 130-119-798; Lot. No. 5190919162; Clone REA641; Dilution 1:50), anti-mouse F4/80-FITC (Cat. No.130-117-509; Lot. No. 52003066886; Clone REA126; Dilution 1:50), REA Control-FITC (Cat. No. 130-113-449; Lot No. 5190711318; Clone REA293; Dilution 1:50), anti-mouse CD8b-APC (Cat. No. 130-111-712; Lot No. 5190919051; Clone: REA793; Dilution 1:50), Rat IgG2a isotype control-APC (Cat. No. 130102655; Lot. No. 5191030093; Dilution 1:10), anti-mouse CD4 VioBlue® (Cat. No. 130-118-696; Lot No. 5190919087; Clone REA605; Dilution 1:50), anti-mouse MHC Class II- VioBlue® (Cat. No. 130-123-278; Lot. No. 5200805636; Clone M5/114.15.2; Dilution 1:50), anti-mouse CD3ɛ VioBlue® (Cat. No. 130118849; Lot. No. 5200805619; Clone 17A2; Dilution 1:50), antimouse VioBlue<sup>®</sup> CD11b REAfinity<sup>™</sup> (Cat. No. 130113810, Lot. No. 5200805605; Clone REA592; Dilution 1:50), REA Control-VioBlue<sup>®</sup> (Cat. No. 130-113-545; Lot. No. 5190711335; Clone REA293; Dilution 1:50), anti-mouse CD11b-PE-Vio®770 (Cat No. 130-113-808; Lot No. 5190919070; Clone REA592; Dilution 1:50), and REA Control-PE-Vio®770 (Cat. No. 130-113-452; Lot No. 5191025178; Clone REA293; Dilution 1:50) were purchased from Miltenyi Biotec (Bergisch Gladbach, Germany). Western Blot antibodies: Anti-human total p65 (Cat. No. D14E12; Lot. No. 13; Dilution 1:1000), anti-human phosphor-p65 (Cat. No.3033T; Lot. No. 16; Dilution 1:1000), anti-human vinculine (Cat. No. E1E9V; Lot. No. 6; Dilution 1:1000) and anti-rabbit HRP (Cat. No. 7074P2; Lot. No. 28; Dilution 1:2000) were purchased from Cells Signaling Technology<sup>®</sup> (Massachusetts, USA).

**Brain-resident cell isolation.** Brains from 6-10 week-old male C57BL/6 mice were harvested, chopped and incubated in rotation with Collagenase III\Dispase solution for 50 min at 37°C. Red blood-cells lysis was carried out followed by Percoll gradient for myelin separation. Cell suspension was then incubated with CD11b and CD31 microbeads for microglia and endothelial cells isolation, respectively, then placed with the microbeads in MACS MS magnetic columns. Isolated microglia were discarded while endothelial cells were plated in 96 well plates or Transwell<sup>®</sup> chambers following well-surface coating with 0.2 mg/ml rat tail type I collagen. The

negative population, enriched in astrocytes, was collected following beads separation, plated in a 10 cm<sup>2</sup> dish and grown in AM. After cells separation, each of the populations was evaluated for cell type and purity by FACS (Attune NxF, Life Technologies, USA).

**mCherry FACS sorting.** To assess the changes in astrocytes gene signature following interaction with melanoma cells, human or murine astrocytes were seeded (1x10<sup>6</sup> cells/10 cm<sup>2</sup> plate) and 24 h after mCherry-labeled 131/4-5B1, WM115, B16-F10, D4M.3A, B2905 cells, respectively, were added to the astrocytes culture (0.5x10<sup>6</sup> cells/10 cm<sup>2</sup> plate). Alternatively, astrocytes were grown alone in AM SFM for 24 h. Cells were detached and washed using PBS buffer supplemented with 2 mM EDTA and 0.5% BSA, and 0.1 % sodium azide (FACS buffer) and sorted by discarding mCherry-labeled melanoma cells by FACS (AriaIII, BD Bioscience, USA) using mCherry channel (635 nm). Total RNA was extracted from astrocytes for gene expression analysis.

Apoptosis assay in primary hippocampal cultures. Primary hippocampal neurons were prepared as described (2). The experiments were performed in cultures after 14 – 21 days *in vitro*. Cells were treated with 0.3 mM and 1 mM Bindarit o rvehicle (DMSO) for 1 h in MEM supplemented with 32.7mM glucose, or for 2 days in feeding medium. In order to detect apoptotic cells, coverslips were incubated with CellEvent<sup>™</sup> Caspase-3/7 Green ReadyProbes<sup>™</sup> Reagent according to manufactured protocol. Coverslips were imaged using FV1000 spectral Olympus confocal microscope using a 20x 0.75 N.A. objective under 488 nm (excitation) and 510 – 570 nm (emission) in an extracellular Tyrode solution containing 145 mM NaCl, 3 mM KCl, 15 mM glucose, 10 mM HEPES, 1,2 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, and 1.2 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>, adjusted at pH 7.4 with NaOH. As positive control to induce cell death, primary hippocampal neurons were exposed for 30 minutes to 20 µM FCCP. For the analysis, ImageJ software was used to count the number of apoptotic cells relative to the neurons in the field of view.

**siRNA MCP-1 silencing.** Human astrocytes (4x10<sup>4</sup> cells/ml/well) were seeded onto 6-well plates and 24 h later transfected with polyplexes containing PEI and MCP-1 siRNA (NM\_002982). siRNAtargeting MCP-1 (200 or 500 nM), or negative control siRNA (NC 500 nM) were incubated with PEI for 20 min prior cells treatment, according to manufacturer's protocol. Twenty-four hours later cells were collected, and total RNA was extracted.

**siRNA treatment and astrocytes viability.** Human astrocytes (4x10<sup>4</sup> cells/ml/well) were seeded in 24-well plates and 24 h later transfected with polyplexes containing PEI:siRNA at 200 nM or 500 nM siRNA targeting MCP-1 or NC. Twenty-four to seventy-two hours later cells were detached using trypsin and counted using Coulter cells counter (Beckman, USA).

mRNA isolation and qPCR. Total RNA was isolated using EZ-RNA II total RNA isolation kit according to the manufacturer's protocol. Briefly, samples were lysed with 0.5 mL denaturing solution/6-well culture plate. Water saturated phenol was added, and samples were centrifuged. Isopropanol was then added to the aqueous colorless (upper) phase to precipitate RNA, and samples were centrifuged once more. RNA pellet was washed with 75% ethanol, centrifuged, and resuspended with ultra-pure double distilled water. RNA concentration was evaluated by measuring absorption (A260/A280) using NanoDrop<sup>®</sup> ND-1000 Spectrophotometer according to the manufacturer's V3.5 user's manual (Nano- Drop Technologies, Wilmington, DE). Reverse transcription reaction for mRNA was performed using qScript<sup>™</sup> cDNA Synthesis Kit for RT-PCR, following the manufacturer's protocol. Briefly, 1 µg of total RNA sample was mixed with qScript Reverse Transcriptase, dNTPs and nuclease free water. The reaction tube was then incubated at 42°C for 30 min and heated at 85°C for 5 min to stop cDNA synthesis reaction. cDNA levels were quantified using custom qPCR primers and normalized to GAPDH or HPRT housekeeping genes. qPCR for cDNAs was performed using Fast SYBR<sup>™</sup> green Master Mix, according to manufacturer's instructions using StepOnePlus real-time PCR system (Applied Biosystems, Thermo Fisher, USA). Human primers: Human MCP-1 Forward: 5'- GGCTGAGACTAACCCAGAAAC - 3'; reverse: 5' -GAATGAAGGTGGCTGCTATGA - 3'. Murine primers: Mouse MCP-1 Forward: 5'-TGTGTTCATCCCCAGAACCG -3'; reverse: 5'GGGTACAGTTCCTTGGAGCC -3'. Mouse CCR2 Forward: 5'- TGTGTTCATCCCCAGAACCG-3': reverse: 5'- GGGTACAGTTCCTTGGAGCC -3'. Mouse HPRT Forward: 5' - TGATTATGGACAGGACTGAAAGA -3'; reverse: 5' – GCAGGTCAGCAAAGAACTTATAG -3'.

**Human/murine primers:** human/mouse GAPDH Forward: 5' - ATTCCACCCATGGCAAATTC - 3'; reverse: 5' - GGATCTCGCTCCTGGAAGATG - 3'.

Melanoma proliferation in co-culture. Human and murine melanoma mCherry-labeled cells (WM115 – 2x10<sup>3</sup> cells/well, A375 – 1x10<sup>3</sup> cells/well, D4M.3A - 750 cells/well, B16-F10 – 1 x10<sup>3</sup> cells/well) were plated alone onto 96-well culture plates in their growing medium for 24 h. In addition, melanoma cells were co-cultured with human or murine astrocytes at a ratio of 1:1 in AM. Twenty-four hours later, astrocytes SFM was added to the cell mono-culture or the coculture. Cells' growth was monitored for 48 h by IncuCyte<sup>™</sup> ZOOM Live Cell Imaging system (Essen BioScience, Sartorius, USA) and red phase images (representing mCherry-labeled melanoma cells) were taken every two hours using 10X objective. Results were calculated by the IncuCyte<sup>™</sup> Software and presented as % of total red area covered (image/well) normalized to time zero for each cell cultures. Additionally, human WM115 melanoma mCherry cells (2x10<sup>3</sup>) cells/well) were co-cultured with astrocytes (1:1), or microglia (2:1), or CMEC/D3 (1:2) in their growing medium. Twenty-four hours later, brain resident cells SFM supplemented with 10µg/ml anti-MCP-1 neutralizing antibody, was added to the co-cultures. Cell growth was monitored for 48 h by IncuCyte<sup>™</sup> ZOOM Live Cell Imaging system (Essen BioScience, Sartorius, USA) and red phase images (representing mCherry-labeled melanoma cells) were taken every two hours using 10X objective. Results were calculated by the IncuCyte<sup>™</sup> Software and presented as % of total red area covered (image/well) normalized to time zero for each cell cultures.Fhehem

**Transwell**<sup>®</sup> **Migration Assay.** For testing melanoma migration towards astrocytes-secreted cytokines enriched medium, melanoma 131/4-5B1 or D4M.3A (1x10<sup>5</sup> cells/insert), WM115 or B16-F10 cells (5x10<sup>4</sup> cells/insert) were seeded in 8  $\mu$ m inserts of a Transwell<sup>®</sup> coated with 10  $\mu$ g/mL bovine fibronectin. Astrocytes SFM or CM was loaded in the lower chamber and migration of the melanoma cells towards SFM or CM was monitored for 12 to 48 h. In order to assess melanoma migration in co-culture with astrocytes, human astrocytes (1x10<sup>5</sup> cells/well) or murine astrocytes (2x10<sup>5</sup> cells/well) were seeded in the lower chambers of the Transwell<sup>®</sup> inserts. Astrocytes SFM alone or supplemented with 0.3 mM bindarit was added to growing astrocytes

in the lower chamber. Melanoma cells (131/4-5B1, A375, WM115, D4M.3A, or B16-F10) were then allowed to migrate towards untreated or treated astrocytes for 12 to 48 h.

D4M.3A cells were allowed to migrate towards astrocytes' CM collected from treated astrocytes (0.3 mM bindarit) or towards astrocytes CM supplemented with freshly added 0.3 mM bindarit, as additional control to exclude cytotoxic effects of the bindarit on the migrating cells.

In order to evaluate melanoma migration towards astrocytes CM depleted of specific cytokines, murine (B16-F10 5x10<sup>4</sup> cells/well or D4M.3A - 1x10<sup>5</sup> cells/well) and human (WM115 or 131/4-5B1 – 5x10<sup>4</sup> cells/well) melanoma cells were seeded in the upper chambers of the Transwell<sup>®</sup>. Astrocytes SFM, astrocytes CM alone or supplemented with neutralizing antibodies (RANTES, MCP-1, GRO- $\alpha$ , or SERPIN-E1), were loaded in the lower chamber. Melanoma cells were then allowed to migrate towards the astrocytes CM supplemented with neutralizing antibodies for the selected cytokines for 12 to 24 h. For the D4M.3A and B16-F10 migration assays, astrocytes were previously activated with LPS for 24 h prior CM collection, as described before. Anti-human neutralizing antibodies for RANTES (0.1 µg/ml), MCP-1 (0.2 µg/ml), GRO- $\alpha$  (0.1 µg/ml), SERPIN E1 (0.1 µg/ml), IL-6 (0.4 µg/ml), IL-8 (0.2 µg/ml) were used according to the manufacturer's protocol. Anti-mouse neutralizing antibodies for RANTES (0.16 µg/ml), MIP-2 (1.8 µg/ml), were used according to the manufacture's protocol.

In order to evaluate the effect on melanoma migration of other brain resident cells which secrete MCP-1, human WM115 melanoma cells ( $1x10^5$  cells/well) were seeded in the upper chambers of the Transwell<sup>®</sup>. Melanoma cells were let to migrate towards human astrocytes, or human microglia, or CMEC/D3 for 12h in SFM (AM, or MM, or EndoGRO media). Control co-culture were compared to treated co-culture, where in the latter MCP-1 was neutralized by treating the brain resident cells with 10 µg/ml anti-MCP-1 neutralizing antibody.

In order to rescue melanoma cells migration following neutralization of MCP-1 in co-culture with astrocytes or in astrocytes CM, human WM115 melanoma cells ( $1x10^5$  cells/well) were seeded in the upper chambers of the Transwell<sup>®</sup>. Melanoma cells were let to migrate towards untreated astrocytes, or bindarit-treated astrocytes, or bindarit-treated astrocytes supplemented with 1  $\mu$ g/ml rh MCP-1. Alternatively, melanoma cells were let to migrate towards the CM of untreated

astrocytes, or bindarit-treated astrocytes, or bindarit-treated astrocytes supplemented with 1  $\mu$ g/ml rhMCP-1 for 18h.

In order to evaluate the toxicity on brain resident cell migration of bindarit and anti-MCP-1 neutralizing antibody, human astrocytes, or human microglia, or CMEC/D3 (1x10<sup>5</sup> cells/well) were seeded in the upper chambers of the Transwell<sup>®</sup>. The brain resident cells were exposed to 0.3 mM bindarit, or 10 µg/ml anti-MCP-1 neutralizing antibody and let to migrate towards serum-containing media (AM, or MM, or EndoGRO media) for 24 h. All migrated cells were then fixed and stained (Hema 3 Stain System; Fisher Diagnostics, fixed and stained (Hema 3 Stain System; Fisher Diagnostics, fixed and stained (Hema 3 Stain System; Fisher Diagnostics, fixed and stained (Hema 3 Stain System; Fisher Diagnostics, fixed and stained (Hema 3 Stain System; Fisher Diagnostics, fixed and stained (Hema 3 Stain System; Fisher Diagnostics, fixed and stained (Hema 3 Stain System; Fisher Diagnostics, fixed and stained (Hema 3 Stain System; Fisher Diagnostics, fixed and stained (Hema 3 Stain System; Fisher Diagnostics, fixed and stained (Hema 3 Stain System; Fisher Diagnostics, fixed and stained (Hema 3 Stain System; Fisher Diagnostics, fixed and stained (Hema 3 Stain System; Fisher Diagnostics, USA). The stained migrated cells were imaged using EVOS FL Auto microscope (Life Technologies, USA) using 10X objective, brightfield illumination.

For transendothelial migration, freshly isolated mBEC cells (4x10<sup>5</sup> cells/insert) were seeded and grown for 96 h in 8 µm Transwell® inserts coated with 0.2 mg/ml collagen type I. mCherry-labeled D4M.3A or B16-F10 cells were seeded on 100 ng/ml collagen type I added on top of mBEC. Melanoma cells were allowed to migrate for 48 h towards treated astrocytes (0.3 mM bindarit) or 0.3 mM bindarit pre-treated astrocytes CM. Migrated cells were then fixed, and the nuclei were stained with Hoechst solution in PBS (1:5000). Migrated mCherry-labeled cells were imaged using EVOS FL Auto microscope (Life Technologies, USA) using 10X objective, Tex-Red LED Cube illumination. Migrated cells from the captured images per membrane were analyzed using ImageJ 1.52v software.

**Wound Healing Assay**. To study the role of MCP-1 in mediating melanoma cells migration, (WM115 and 131/4-5B1 cells) (5x10<sup>4</sup> cells/well) were plated onto 96-well ImageLock tissue culture plate and allowed to grow until confluence. Next, a wound was created in each well using a 96-pin wound-making tool (WoundMaker, Essen BioScience, Sartorius, USA), and dislodged cells were washed with PBS. Melanoma cells were treated for 48h with astrocytes CM, human astrocytes CM treated with siRNA:PEI polyplexes (500 nM siRNA targeting MCP-1 or scramble siRNA), astrocytes CM supplemented with 10 µg/mL anti-MCP-1 neutralizing antibody, astrocytes SFM supplemented with 1 µg/mL rh/m-MCP-1. To monitor wound closure, the plate was placed in the IncuCyte<sup>TM</sup> ZOOM Live Cell Imaging system (Essen Bioscience, Sartorius, USA) and phase contrast images were taken every 2 h intervals over a course of 48 h using 10X objective. Results were calculated by the IncuCyte<sup>™</sup> Software and presented as relative wound density (relative to the background density of the wound at time 0).

**ELISA.** Activation of human or murine astrocytes was achieved by growing 8x10<sup>4</sup> cells/6 wellsplate in astrocytes SFM (with LPS in case of murine cells) for 24 h. Inhibition of human or murine astrocytes-secreted MCP-1 was achieved by growing 8x10<sup>4</sup> cells/6 wells-plate in astrocytes SFM supplemented with 0.3 mM bindarit (with LPS in case of murine cells). Alternatively, human astrocytes (4x10<sup>4</sup> cells/6 wells-plate) were grown in astrocytes medium supplemented with 2% serum for 24 h. PEI complexed with MCP-1 siRNA and NC siRNA were added to the medium. Twenty-four hours following treatment, the cells were incubated in AM SFM for additional 24 h. To assess MCP-1 secretion in melanoma-activate astrocytes, human melanoma WM115 cells or murine melanoma D4M.3A (5x10<sup>5</sup> cells/10 cm<sup>2</sup> dish) were grown in melanoma SFM. Twenty-four hours later, melanoma CM was collected, filtered with 0.2 µm filter and added to growing human and murine astrocytes (2.5x10<sup>5</sup> or 5x10<sup>5</sup>cells/10 cm<sup>2</sup> dish), respectively. MCP-1 inhibition in melanoma activated-astrocytes was achieved by exposing astrocytes to WM115 CM supplemented with 0.3 mM bindarit. CM of melanoma cells was used to determine the basal MCP-1 melanoma containing-medium prior to astrocytes enrichment secretion. Twenty-four hours later astrocytes CM or melanoma CM was collected, filtered with 0.2 µm filter and analyzed for MCP-1 secretion. In order to evaluate MCP-1 secretion from brain resident cells, astrocytes (1x10<sup>5</sup> cells/6 well-plate), or microglia (0.5x10<sup>5</sup> cells/6 well-plate), or CMEC/D3 (2x10<sup>5</sup> cells/6 well-plate) were either grown in monoculture or in co-culture with WM115 (1x10<sup>5</sup> cells/6 wellplate) melanoma cells for 24 h in SFM. Twenty-four hours later astrocytes, or microglia, or CMEC/D3 CM was collected, filtered with 0.2 µm filter and analyzed for MCP-1 secretion, while the cells were harvested and analyzed by flow cytometry for intracellular MCP-1 expression.

**Multicellular tumor spheroids (MCTS).** 3D tumor spheroids were formed from a mixture of melanoma and astrocytes. Human or murine mCherry-labeled melanoma cells (WM115, A375, D4M.3A, B16-F10, B2905 –  $4x10^5$  cells/ml) alone or in combination with human GFP-labeled or

unlabeled murine astrocytes (4x10<sup>5</sup> cells/ml - in ratio 1:1) were grown in AM supplemented with 0.24 w/v% methyl cellulose. Cells were seeded in 25 µL droplets on the inner side of a 20 mm dish and incubated for 48 h at 37°C when the plate is facing upside down to allow for spheroid formation. For basal invasion assay, 3D spheroids were then embedded in GFR Matrigel® and exposed to astrocytes SFM. For cytokines-induced invasion, 3D mono-culture spheroids were grown in astrocytes CM. In order to evaluate the inhibition of invasion following bindarit treatment, WM115 and D4M.3A (4x10<sup>5</sup> cells/ml) alone or in combination with human or murine astrocytes (4x10<sup>5</sup>cells/ml - in ratio 1:1) were exposed to astrocytes SFM alone or supplemented with 0.3 mM bindarit, or to untreated astrocytes CM or supplemented with 0.3 mM bindarit-treated astrocytes. 3D MCTS invasion was visualized following 24 h and 48 h using EVOS FL Auto cell imaging system (Life Technologies, USA) at 10X magnification. The sprouting of MCTS was analyzed using ImageJ 1.52v software, and the results were presented as total area covered or % of total area covered per spheroid (pixel density) per well.

**Hemolysis Assay. Hemolysis Assay.** Fresh blood was obtained from a male Wistar rat (~250 g) by cardiac puncture and collected in a heparinized. Blood was then centrifuged at 1000 x g for 10 min at 4°C. Supernatant was discarded and erythrocytes were washed 3 times with pre-chilled PBS. Then a 2% w/w RBC stock solution (2% RBC in cold PBS) was loaded into a 96-well plate and incubated with serial dilutions (0.31-2.5 mg/ml) of bindarit for 1 h at 37°C. Following plate centrifugation, the supernatants were transferred to a new plate and absorbance was measured at 550 nm using a SpectraMax M5 plate reader (Molecular Devices, San Jose, California, USA). SDS and Triton-X100 were used as positive controls, whereas 70kDa Dextran was used as a negative control.

**Evans blue permeability Miles assay.** B16-F10 MBM bearing mice were injected i.v. with 0.15 ml of Evans blue solution (30 mg/ml in saline) (n=3 PBS treated-group; n=4 bindarit-treated group). Thirty minutes later, mice were perfused with PBS, brains were harvested, and intracranially tumors were isolated and incubated in 0.5 ml formamide (Sigma-Aldrich, Israel) for 48 h at 55°C.

The absorbance of the Evans blue dye was then measured at 620 nm and the blank (formamide only) was subtracted to the Evans blue measurements, using SpectraMax M5 plate reader (Molecular Devices, San Jose, California, USA).

**CCR2** and **CCR4** markers sorting. For basal expression of CCR2 and CCR4 receptors, B16-F10 cells were grown till confluent and harvested using FACS buffer. CCR2-APC and CCR4-PE primary antibodies were incubated in FACS buffer with the cell's suspension for 30 min at room temperature. CCR2+/CCR4+ B16-F10 expressing cells were sorted using ArialII (BD Bioscience, USA) and cultured for a week melanoma medium. The sorted cells underwent CRISPR/Cas9 K/O or NTC K/O and then sorted again for CCR2-/CCR4- following incubation with CCR2-PE and CCR4-APC.

**CRISPR/Cas9 for CCR2/CCR4 melanoma B16-F10 knockout (K/O).** For B16-F10 CCR2/CCR4 knock-out (K/O), cells were sorted for CCR2<sup>+</sup>/CCR4<sup>+</sup> expression and cultured in plate for a week. Then, electroporation was performed on  $1 \times 10^5$  cells/µl with 18.3 pmol Alt-R spCas9 Nuclease V3, and 22 pmol sgRNA, in Buffer R using a Neon electroporation system at 1600v 20ms 1pulse. CRISPR/Cas9 negative K/O was generated in absence of gRNAs (NTC). Subsequently, cells were grown overnight in a 6-well plate at the concentration of  $1 \times 10^6$  cells/ml in antibiotic-free media. K/O assessment was then performed by flow cytometry using Attune NxT on day 3 following electroporation. Finally, B16-F10 cells were sorted for CCR2-/CCR4-.

CRISPR/Cas9 sgRNA sequences: CCR2 5'- AGTATGCCGTGGATGAACTG -3'; CCR4 5'- CAGACCCAACAAGAAGACCA -3'.

**CCR2** and **CCR4** K/O genes quantification. For quantification of gRNA activity, genomic DNA was extracted using Quick DNA miniprep kit and 500ng genomic DNA was amplified by PCR using PrimeSTAR MAX for 35cyles. Resulting amplicon was denatured and reannealed in a thermocycler prior to cleaving by T7 Endonuclease 1 at 37°C for 30 min. DNA cleavage was analyzed by agarose gel electrophoresis and quantified using Biovision (Vilber Lourmat) using a rolling ball for background subtraction. Efficiency of gene editing was calculated as cleavage efficiency (*3*).

Cleavage efficiency:  $100 \times (1 - (1 - \text{fraction cleaved})^{1/2}$ .

**Fluorescence microscopy and image analysis.** Confocal images were captured using a Nikon Ti microscope equipped with a Yokogawa CSU X-1 spinning disc, X60 oil objective and an Andor iXon897 EMCCD camera, controlled by Andor IQ3 software. 3-dimensional co-localization analysis was done using Bitplane Imaris 8.4.3 software.

Generation of MBM. In order to generate MBM, melanoma cells were either intracardiallyinnoculated (spontaneous MBM tumor) or intracranially-inoculated (melanoma brain tumor) into immunocompromised SCID mice, or immunocompetent C57BL/6 mice. The cell lines used in this study, with the exception for D4M.3A, WM115 and B2905 melanoma cells, were previously reported to form spontaneous brain metastasis following either intracardiac injection of melanoma cells, or resection of the primary tumors. The location of those metastases are predominantly parenchymal and leptomeningeal in the murine cell lines (Mel-ret, B16-F10 (4-6), D4M.3A and B2905 in Table 1), as opposed to the human cell lines (131/4-5B1, A375 in Table 1) which prefentially colonize the brain parenchyma (7, 8). The yield of brain metastasis following intracardiac inoculation of non-brain tropic melanoma cells, varies between 7 to 60% (5, 9-11) and between 20 to 54% following primary tumor resection (97–180 days post-primary resection) (7, 12). In our spontaneous models of MBM (intracardiac inoculation of melanoma cells) the incidence of MBM was 100% in 131/4-5B1 model (n=10), 0% in WM115 model (n=10), 90% in B2905, and 70% in D4M.3A model (n=9) in 3-6 weeks. WM115 model developed MBM (66%, n=6) following 2-3 months from intracardiac cell inoculation. However, with the exception of 131/4-5B1 model, in most of the cases mice succumbed from lungs and intraperitoneal lesions while showing signs of brain metastasis (Table 2). The incidence raised to 60% and 80-90% following primary resection (in 4–6 months) or intracardiac inoculation of brain-tropic melanoma cells (9, 12). For interventional purpose, MBM were generated following intracranial inoculation of melanoma cells. Examples in literature exploiting the model of intracranial inoculation of D4M.3A and B16-F10 were used for interventional immunotherapy studies (13, 14).

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI). Tumor bearing mice were imaged at the Sackler Cellular &

Molecular Imaging Center (SCMIC), Tel Aviv University. Tumor bearing mice were scanned using 4.7T/1H MRS 4000<sup>™</sup> or 7T MRI (MR Solutions, UK) (32-channel head-coil) following gadolinium i.p. injection. MRI scans were taken using a conventional T1 according to FSE26 sequence. T1 data were analyzed using RadiAnt DICOM Viewer or MRIcro software, and the tumor area was calculated per each axial scan. The tumor volume was obtained by summing the tumor areas from each scan.

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-F10 PBS Sham injury

Β.



Day 3 Day 10 C.



GFAP DAPI

Supplemental Figure 1. Activated-astrocytes in MBM (A) GFAP immunostaining (green) showing activated astrocytes in melanoma tumors compared to normal brain samples of human and mouse (C57BL/6 and SCID, n=3 mice). Representative images of FFPE of patient-derived (PD-1, PD-2, PD-2, PD-4, and PD-5) N=5 patients; cryo-section of melanoma brain metastases (MBM) of human WM115 (n=4 mice) and murine D4M.3A (n=3 mice) mCherry-labeled cells following intracardiac cell inoculation (red). Nuclei are shown by DAPI staining (blue). Scale bar - 100 µm. (B) Astrocytes morphology and GFAP activation of brain cryo-section with sham injury and PBS intracranially-injected compared to B16-F10 and D4M.3A tumor-bearing mice (n=3 mice). Nuclei are shown by DAPI staining (blue), GFAP (green). Scale bar - 100 μm. (C) Quantification of GFAP marker staining following sham injury (in blue), PBS administration (in gray), B16-F10 (in black) or D4M.3A (in green) melanoma cells intracranially-inoculated. Pixel density (total area covered in % per field) of GFAP marker. Dots represent mean ± S.D. of n= 3 fields/slide in n=3 mice of biological replicates. Ordinary Two-way ANOVA statistical analysis.

1-3





B2905 mCherry DAPI

**Supplemental Figure 2. Spontaneous formation of B2905 MBM following intracardiac cell inoculation**. B2905 melanoma cells were intracardially inoculated in immunocompetent mouse model (n=10) to generate MBM. Upper panel – photos of the harvested brains in which visually detectable MBM are marked in red (red cycle). Lower panel - IHC for mCherry marker showed the presence of MBM detected in the parenchyma or in leptomeningeal location.. Brain specimens that did not develop MBM, did not show any positive staining for mCherry and therefore were left blank. Nuclei are shown by DAPI staining (blue), mCherry (red). Scale bar - 400 μm.



2-1

2-2

2-3

D4M.3A mCherry DAPI

**Supplemental Figure 3. Spontaneous formation of D4M.3A MBM following intracardiac cell inoculation**. D4M.3A melanoma cells were intracardially inoculated in immunocompetent mouse model (n=9) to generate MBM. Upper panel – photos of the harvested brains in which visually detectable MBM are marked in red (red cycle). Lower panel - IHC for mCherry marker showed the presence of MBM detected in the parenchyma or in leptomeningeal location. Brain specimens that did not develop MBM, did not show any positive staining for mCherry and therefore were left blank. Nuclei are shown by DAPI staining (blue), mCherry (red). Scale bar - 400 μm.







131/4-5B1 mCherry DAPI

Supplemental Figure 4. Spontaneous formation of 131/4-5B1 MBM following intracardiac cell inoculation. 131/4-5B1 melanoma cells were intracardially inoculated in immunocompromised mouse model (n=10) to generate MBM. Upper panel – photos of the harvested brains in which visually detectable MBM are marked in red (red cycle). Lower panel - IHC for mCherry marker showed the presence of MBM detected in the parenchyma or in leptomeningeal location. Nuclei are shown by DAPI staining (blue), mCherry (red). Scale bar - 400  $\mu$ m.







Supplemental Figure 5. Astrocyte activation promotes melanoma growth and migration. (A) Co-culture with astrocytes enhances melanoma proliferation (WM115, A375, D4M,3A, B16-F10, and B2905 melanoma cells) in 48 h. Data is presented as the mean  $\pm$  S.D. fluorescence signal of mCherry-labeled melanoma, measured by Incucyte<sup>TM</sup> live cell imaging. Dots represent mean  $\pm$  S.D. of n= 4 fields per well of three wells of biological replicates. Two-way ANOVA statistical analysis was performed. (B) Migration of D4M.3A melanoma cells in Transwell<sup>®</sup> in the presence of astrocytes (AS) SFM (in black), AS SFM + LPS (100 ng/ml – in light gray), AS CM (in dark gray), or AS-LPS activated CM (in taupe) for 48 h. Pixel density (total area covered per field) of the migrated cancer cells was quantified using ImageJ 1.52v software. Representative cell migrating fields are shown (n=3). Scale bar - 400  $\mu$ m. Dots represent mean  $\pm$  S.D. of n= 3 fields/well of triplicates of biological replicates. Ordinary one-way ANOVA statistical analysis.



В.

Α.

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Monoculture (MC)



A375 hAstrocytes





Co-culture (CC)

B16-F10 mAstrocytes

Monoculture (MC) Co-culture (CC)

Supplemental Figure 6. Astrocyte activation promotes melanoma migration (A) Astrocytes conditioned-media (CM - black) enhance and invasion. melanoma Transwell<sup>®</sup> migration (A375, B16-F10, B2905 and 131/4-5B1 cells). Pixel density (total area covered per field) of the migrated cancer cells was quantified using ImageJ 1.52v software. Representative cell migrating fields are shown (n=3). Scale bar - 400  $\mu$ m. Dots represent mean ± S.D. of n= 3 fields/well of three wells of three independent experiments. Nonparametric Student's t-test statistical analysis was performed. (B) Co-culture with astrocytes enhances the sprouting of melanoma 3D multicellular spheroid (A375, B16-F10, and B2905 mCherry-labeled melanoma cells). Mouse astrocytes were unlabeled. Human astrocytes were GFP-labeled in green. Dots represent melanoma cell invasion as fluorescence signal of mean ± S.D. of n=3 spheroids/ well of n=3 wells of three experiments (representative image of one independent independent experiment). Nonparametric Student's two sided t-test statistical analysis was performed. Scale bar - 400 µm.



Time (h)

Time (h)

Supplemental Figure 7. MCP-1 is a key astrocytes-secreted upon melanoma cells-astrocytes interactions. (A) Representative array membranes of AS grown in melanoma CM vs melanoma SFM (B16-F10, D4M.3A, A375, WM115, and 131/4-5B1). MCP-1 in gray, RANTES in dark gray, GRO- $\alpha$  in blue, PAI-1 in dark blue, IL-6 in purple, and IL-8/MIP-2 in light purple. (B) Melanoma cells (131/4-5B1 and B16-F10) were allowed to migrate in the presence of SFM, astrocytes CM in the presence or absence of neutralizing antibodies. Astrocytes CM without LPS and astrocytes CM was used as negative control for cell migration in B16-F10 and 131/4-5B1, respectively. Mean values ± S.D. of triplicates of three independent biological repeats. One-way ANOVA statistical analysis. (C) Wound healing migration assay of WM115 and 131/5B1 cells grown in the presence of astrocytes SFM (red circle), astrocytes CM (white square), rhMCP-1 (black triangle) in astrocytes SFM, and MCP-1 nAb (grey diamond) in astrocytes CM. Dots represent mean ± S.D. of n= 2 field per well of triplicates of biological replicates. Two-way ANOVA statistical analysis.



Supplemental Figure 8. MCP-1 neutralization in astrocytes is pivotal for melanoma cell migration and proliferation. (A) Migration of WM115 melanoma cells in Transwell<sup>®</sup> in co-culture with astrocytes, or microglia, or CMEC/D3 treated with anti-MCP-1 neutralizing antibody for 12 h. Pixel density (% of total area covered per field) of the migrated cancer cells. Representative cell migrating fields are shown. Scale bar - 400 µm. Mean ± S.D. of n= 3 fields/ well of triplicates of biological replicates. Nonparametric Student's t-test statistical analysis. (B) WM115 melanoma cell proliferation in co-culture with astrocytes and CMEC/D3 in 48 h following neutralization of MCP-1. Mean ± S.D. fluorescence signal of mCherry-labeled melanoma, measured by Incucyte<sup>TM</sup> live cell imaging. Mean ± S.D. of n= 4 fields per well of triplicates of biological replicates. Two-way ANOVA statistical analysis.



MCP-1-FITC-A

Α.

Supplemental Figure 9. Melanoma cells induces the expression of MCP-1 in bran resident cells and remarkable secretion in astrocytes. (A) Brain resident cells (astrocytes - circle, microglia - triangle, CMEC/D3 - square) were exposed to 10 µg/ml anti-MCP-1 nAb for 72 h. Cell viability was assessed by metabolic activity MTT assay. Mean ± S.D. of triplicates of biological replicates. Nonparametric Student's t-test statistical analysis. (B) MCP-1 secretion in astrocytes (AS), microglia (MG), and CMEC/D3 (EC) grown as monoculture in SFM, or in co-culture with WM115 melanoma cells for 24h. Mean ± S.D. of triplicates of biological replicates. Nonparametric Student's t-test statistical analysis. (C) Flow cytometry analysis of MCP-1 intracellular expression in astrocytes (AS), or microglia (MG), or CMEC/D3 (EC) grown in co-culture with WM115 melanoma cells (in red), or grown in monoculture (in black) for 24 h. The mean fluorescent intensity (MFI) of unstained control (US – gray dots), monoculture (MC - in black), and co-culture (CC - in red) of melanoma and brain resident cells, is shown. The FSC and SCC of the gated cell population is presented (n=3).



Ε.



Brain resident cell migration

Control area) Control area) Control area) Control area) Control area) Supplemental Figure 10. Silencing of MCP-1 in astrocytes reduces melanoma migration without affecting cell viability. (A) Following 24h incubation with siRNA:PEI targeting MCP-1, or NC:PEI in astrocytes medium. MCP-1 mRNA expression in astrocytes was significantly reduced to 20% and 12% compared to control or NC in a siRNA concentration-dependent manner (black bars), without affecting the cell viability of human astrocytes (blue dots). MCP-1 silencing also reduced the secreted protein levels to 46% and 30% compared to control or NC in a siRNA concentration-dependent manner (red bars). Mean ± S.D. of triplicates of three independent experiments. One-way ANOVA statistical analysis. (B) Wound healing migration assay of 131/4-5B1 cells grown in the presence of astrocytes CM (untreated – black empty dot), or siRNA:PEI targeting MCP-1 (in blue), or NC (black full dot). Dots represent mean ± S.D. of n= 2 field per well of triplicates of biological replicates. Two-way ANOVA statistical analysis was performed. (C) Microglia – in gray, astrocytes – in black, and CMEC/D3 – in green exposed to bindarit for 72 h. Cell viability was assessed by metabolic activity MTT assay. Mean ± S.D. of triplicates of three independent biological repeats. Nonparametric Student's t-test statistical analysis. (D) Percentage of apoptotic cells in primary hippocampal neurons treated with 0.3 and 1 mM vehicle (in gray), or bindarit (in blue) for 1 h (plain bars) and 2 days (pattern bars) or 30 minutes with 20 µM carbonyl cyanide 4-phenylhydrazone - FCCP (positive control for cell death in pink). n=3 coverslips from 2 independent experiments and n=1 for the positive control. Average of the percentage of apoptotic cells in 4 fields of view. Nested One-way ANOVA, Tukey's Multiple Comparison test. Mean ± SEM. (E) Transwell<sup>®</sup> migration of brain resident cells (astrocytes, microglia, CMEC/D3) treated with anti-MCP-1 nAb (in gray), or 0.3 mM bindarit (in red) for 24 h compared to untreated control (in black). Mean ± S.D. of n=3 fields/well of biological replicates. Nonparametric Student's t-test statistical analysis.

Α.



C.

WM115 with astrocytes conditioned-media





D.

Melanoma cell with astrocytes co-culture

В.

Supplemental Figure 11. Bindarit selectively inhibits MCP-1 secretion and melanoma cell migration (A) Levels of the selected six pro-inflammatory cytokines secreted by astrocytes in SFM following bindarit treatment for 24 h. Results are expressed as fold change secretion. Mean of two independent biological repeats. (B) Melanoma cells (B16-F10, D4M.3A, WM115, 131/4-5B1, A375) were co-culture with astrocytes (in black) and treated with 0.3 mM bindarit (in red) in a Transwell<sup>®</sup> assay for 6 to 24 h. Pixel density (% of total area covered per field) of the migrated cancer cells was quantified using ImageJ 1.52v software. Mean ± S.D. of triplicates of three independent biological repeats. Nonparametric Student's t-test statistical analysis was performed. (C) Transwell® migration of melanoma WM115 cells towards CM of bindarit-treated astrocytes (in red), or towards untreated astrocytes CM (in black), or towards CM of bindarit-treated astrocytes supplemented with rh-MCP-1 in blue. Representative fields of WM115 migrated cells. Scale bar - 400 µm. Mean ± S.D. of triplicates of biological replicates. One-way ANOVA statistical analysis. (D) D4M.3A Transwell<sup>®</sup> migration towards bindarit-treated astrocytes or towards astrocytes CM supplemented with 0.3 mM bindarit. Mean ± S.D. of triplicates of three independent biological repeats. Nonparametric Student's t-test statistical analysis.





D4M.3A with astrocytes conditioned-media



B16-F10 with astrocytes conditioned-media













B16-F10 with astrocytes co-culture



В.

Supplemental Figure 12. Melanoma cell transendothelial migration is decreased following MCP-1 inhibition (A-B) Migration of melanoma mCherry-labeled D4M.3A cells towards astrocytes CM (A) or towards astrocytes (B) in a transendothelial migration assay. A schematic representation of the Transwell<sup>®</sup> assay is presented (mBECs – murine brain endothelial cells). Pixel density (% of the total area covered per field). Representative fields of mCherry-labeled D4M.3A cells. Scale bar - 400  $\mu$ m. Mean ± S.D. of triplicates of three independent biological repeats. Nonparametric Student's t-test statistical analysis.



WM115 mCherry hAstrocytes GFP



D4M.3A mCherry mAstrocytes

A.

В.

Supplemental Figure 13. Melanoma 3D invasion in co-culture with astrocytes is decreased following MCP-1 inhibition (A-B) 3D Matrigel<sup>®</sup> invasion of melanoma (A) WM115 mCherry cells or (B) D4M.3A mCherry cells monoculture grown in astrocytes SFM, in astrocytes CM or co-cultured with astrocytes (in green or unlabeled). mCherry-labeled cell sprouting (in red) % of the total area covered per one spheroid (untreated control – in black, bindarit-treated spheroids – in red). Representative cell migrating fields are shown (n=3). Mean  $\pm$  S.D. of triplicates of three independent biological repeats. Nonparametric Student's t-test statistical analysis. Scale bar - 400 µm.



В.



Ε.





D.





Α.

Supplemental Figure 14. Inhibition of MCP-1 decreases MCP-1-induced vessel hyper-permeability in MBM tumors. (A) Hemolysis assay of bindarit at the concentration administered in vivo (1 mg/ml). Dextran and SDS were used as negative and positive controls for hemolysis, respectively. Mean ± S.D. of one representative experiment of three independent biological repeats. (B) Representative MRI scans at day 11 (n=4 per group) and quantification of tumor size. Mean ± S.E.M. are presented (n=4). Nonparametric Student's t-test statistical analysis. (C) Distribution of relative absorbance of Evans blue dye in bindarit-treated group compared to PBS-treated group. Mean distribution of n=3 mice per group. (D) Tumor size in MRI scans on day 6 following B16-F10 intracranially inoculated cells. n=12 mice randomized in 2 groups for 2 endpoint (n=3 mice per group). (E) Distribution of relative absorbance of Evans blue dye in bindarit-treated group compared to PBS-treated group on day 7 and 8, and measured on day 8 at 45' and 3 h post-treatment. Mean ± S.E.M. distribution of n=3 mice per group. Nonparametric Student's t-test statistical analysis.



Supplemental Figure 15. Bindarit treatment improves CD8 T-cell infiltration and decreases immune co-inhibitory molecules. (A) Scheme of treatment. Briefly, D4M.3A, or B16-F10, or Mel-ret melanoma cells were i.d. inoculated into immunocompetent C57BL/6 mice to generate primary lesions (n=10 per cell line). Following PM resection (70-100 mm<sup>3</sup> lesions), mice were treated with PBS, or 100 mg/kg bindarit (QOD). Then, MBM were generated by intracranial cell inoculation according to the scheme of treatment. Created with BioRender.com. (B) Body weight change was monitored twice a week upon D4M.3A tumor resection. Mean ± S.E.M. of n=4 in bindarit-treated group, n=5 in PBS-treated group. (C) Body weight change was monitored twice a week upon B16-F10 or Mel-ret tumor resection. Mean ± S.D. of n=5 per group. (D) H&E staining for tumor morphology and size of B16-F10 or Mel-ret MBM at day 8 post cell inoculation. Scale bar - 400 µm. (E) Histological analysis at day 8 (representative fields of n=5-7 fields per marker in n=3 mice per group) of MCP-1/GFAP (in red and in green, respectively), CD206 staining associated to F4/80 macrophages (in red and in green, respectively), infiltration of CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells /lba1 microglia/microphages (red/green), tumor proliferation (Ki67 – in red) and blood vasculature (CD31 – in green), PD-1/PD-L1 exhausted T cells/ inhibitory molecules (red/green) in Mel-ret MBM. Mean ± S.E.M. Nonparametric Student's t-test statistical analysis.













**Supplemental Figure 16. MCP-1 inhibition delays D4M.3A MBM progression.** (A) D4M.3A melanoma cells were injected i.d. in immunocompetent C57BL/6 mice to generate primary lesions. After primary melanoma (PM) resection, mice were treated with 100 mg/kg bindarit (n=3), and intracranially injected with D4M.3A cells to generate MBM, according to the scheme of treatment. Created with BioRender.com. (B) Representative MRI scans and quantification tumor size of the mice bearing MBM at day 8, 12 and 16 are presented (n=3 per group). Mean ± S.E.M. Treatment with bindarit resulted in the inhibition of tumor growth, as shown by quantification dot plots of tumor size. (C) Mice body weight change was monitored twice a week upon D4M.3A tumor resection. Mean ± S.D. of n=3 per group.











Supplemental Figure 17. Bindarit treatment shows impaired myeloid-derived suppressor cell (MDSC) infiltration and increased anti-tumor T-cell recruitment in MBM. Flow cytometry of infiltrating immune cells in D4M.3A MBM on day 16 post intracranial melanoma cells inoculation. MCP-1 inhibition moderately enhanced the infiltration of cytotoxic CD8<sup>+</sup>T cells and CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells and decreased the levels of immune-suppressive cells, such as macrophages (CD11b/F4/80) and MDSCs and (CD11b/Gr1). n=2 mice per group. Representative FSC and SSC of the gated lymphocytes population is presented.



Mel-ret





**Supplemental Figure 18. Tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes following treatment with bindarit in MBM.** Flow cytometry of lymphocyte infiltration in Mel-ret MBM or B16-F10 MBM at day 8 post intracranial melanoma cells inoculation. The infiltration of CD8+-activated (CD107+) T cells was upregulated in bindarit treated-group, whereas suppressive CD4-Tregs were decreased. n=2 per group. Representative FSC and SSC of the gated lymphocytes population is presented.



В.



**Biopsy Site** 

Supplemental Figure 19. Astrocytes' activation and MCP-1 secretion may trigger CCR2/CCR4 overexpression in MBM. (A) Representative images of GFAP/MCP-1 (in green/red, respectively) staining in FFPE samples of human patients bearing MBM (PD-3 and PD-4). Scale bar - 100  $\mu$ m. Confocal images of GFAP (in green), MCP-1 (in red), and their co-localization (in yellow and white arrows) in B16-F10 MBM and in the BME. Scale bar – 25 and 10  $\mu$ m. Z-stack: representative images of 3-dimentional co-localization (in yellow) of GFAP (in green) and MCP1 (in red) performed using confocal Z-stacks images obtained at X60 magnification. Scale bar - 7 $\mu$ m. (B) Expression profile of MCP-1 (CCL2), CCR2, and CCR4 in melanoma brain metastasis (n=5 from TCGA) compared to their expression in normal brain (n=1148 from GTex). *p*-value comparing the expression median across groups are two-sided and computed using Wilcoxon rank-sum test. The boxplot shows the expression distribution, where the center line denotes the median, the box edges indicate the interquartile range and the black line represents the rest of the distribution.





CCR4 MCP-1 DAPI

В.

Normal brain





CCR4 MCP-1 DAPI

C.



Supplemental Figure 20. CCR2/CCR4 overexpression in MBM. (A) Representative fields of MCP-1/CCR2 (in green/red, respectively) and MCP-1/CCR4 (in green/red, respectively) staining in PD-1, PD-3-5 samples of MBM. Scale bar - 100 µm. (B) Representative fields of MCP-1/CCR2 (in green/red, respectively) and MCP-1/CCR4 (in green/red, respectively) staining in healthy brain samples of human and mouse (C57BL/6 strain). Scale bar - 100 μm. (C) Expression profile of CCR2/4 (y-axis) in CCLE/DepMap of melanoma cell from the broad institute, where SKCM human biopsies were taken either from the brain (n=2) or skin (n=3).p-value comparing the expression median across groups are two-sided and computed using Wilcoxon rank-sum test. The boxplot shows the expression distribution, where the center line denotes the median and the box edges indicate the interquartile range.



CCR2 CCR4

Supplemental Figure 21. CRISPR/Cas9 CCR2 and CCR4 double experimental design. (A) Following 24 h incubation with murine astrocytes CM (mAstrocytes CM) and recombinant murine MCP-1 (rm MCP-1), CCR2 mRNA expression cells was significantly upregulated in B16-F10 melanoma (4 to 8 fold-change increase) compared to control B16-F10 cells grown in SFM of astrocytes (SFM AM). Mean ± S.D. of three independent experiments. One-way ANOVA statistical analysis was performed. (B) Experimental design of CRISPRCas9 K/O generation for CCR2 and CCR4 in B16-F10 melanoma cells, and subsequent injection in recipient mice. Created with BioRender.com. (C) B16-F10 from WT cells were analyzed by FACS for basal expression of CCR2 and CCR4, and sequentially sorted for the double positive expression of the two receptors for MCP-1. The population with smaller FSC presented CCR2 and CCR4 expression, whereas high FSC cells were negative for both markers Representative plots of n=3. (D) Double positive CCR2/CCR4 sorted cells were treated with CRISPR/Cas9 Ribonucleoproteins (RNP) with either the gRNAs for CCR2 and CCR4 (K/O), or without a gRNA (NTC). Representative plots of n=3. (E) T7 Endonuclease 1 assay demonstrating gRNAdependent Cas9 induced double stranded breaks at the CCR2 and CCR2 loci. DNA cleavage visualized in CCR2<sup>+</sup>/CCR4<sup>+</sup> cells treated with CCR2 and CCR4 RNPs (K/O), compared to cells treated with Cas9 but without a gRNA (NTC). n=3 repeats.

Α.

Survival (%) 05

100

0

0

WT NTC K/O

5

10



DAPI



Supplemental Figure 22. CCR2/CCR4 CRISPR/Cas9 K/O improves mice survival, CD8 T-cell infiltration and decreases immune co-inhibitory molecules. (A) Kaplan-Meier plot of mice bearing B16-F10 MBM. CCR2-CCR4 K/O tumors (in red) compared to WT and NTC tumor bearing mice (in black and in grey, respectively). n=5 mice per group, two-tailed P values from log-rank (Mantel-Cox). (B) Histological analysis of MCP-1/CCR2 (red/green), MCP-1/CCR4 (red/green), CCR2 staining associated to F4/80 macrophages (red/green), proliferative (ki67 green), and tumor-infiltrating rate lba1 microglia/macrophages (green) in K/O, WT and NTC tumors. Nuclei are shown by DAPI staining (blue). Mean ± S.D. of n=5-7 fields per marker in n=3 mice per group. One-way ANOVA statistical analysis. Scale bar - 100 μm.

Figure 2 E: control (left lane) bindarit-treated (right lane)



Anti p65 antibody



Anti p-p65 antibody



Anti Vinculin antibody