

Machine learning constructs a T cell related signature for predicting prognosis and drug sensitivity in ovarian cancer

Yunzheng Zhang¹, Lipeng Pei¹

¹Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, General Hospital of Northern Theater Command, Shenyang 110015, China

Correspondence to: Lipeng Pei; **email:** 64271174@qq.com, <https://orcid.org/0009-0006-5486-5108>

Keywords: ovarian cancer, T cell, bioinformatics, immunotherapy

Received: July 20, 2023

Accepted: December 7, 2023

Published: February 9, 2024

Copyright: © 2024 Zhang and Pei. This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the [Creative Commons Attribution License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/) (CC BY 4.0), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.

ABSTRACT

Background: The leading cause of death related to gynecologic cancer is ovarian cancer, which typically has a poor prognosis. T cells are referred to as key mediators of immunosurveillance and tumor eradication, and unbalanced regulation or lack of T cells in tumors result in immunotherapy resistance.

Methods: The identification of T cell related markers depended on single-cell RNA-seq analysis. Using data from multiple datasets, including TCGA, GSE14764, GSE26193, GSE26712, and GSE140082, we constructed a prognostic signature called TRS (T cell-related signature) using 10 different machine learning algorithms. The correlation between TRS and drug sensitivity were analyzed using the data from GSE91061 and IMvigor210 dataset.

Results: PlsRcox method based TRS was as a risk factor for the clinical outcome of ovarian cancer patients. In comparison with stage, grade and many prognostic signatures, the performance of our TRS in evaluating the clinical outcome was better in ovarian cancer. TRS-based risk score showed distinct association with the level of ESTIMATE score, immune-related function score and immune cells. Moreover, TRS could be used to predict the immunotherapy response and chemotherapy response in ovarian cancer.

Conclusion: In conclusion, we constructed a powerful TRS in ovarian cancer, which could accurately predict the clinical outcome of patients and be used to predict the immunotherapy response and chemotherapy response.

INTRODUCTION

The leading cause of death related to gynecologic cancer is ovarian cancer, which typically has a poor prognosis [1]. Over 300,000 new cases are initially diagnosed with ovarian cancer globally by 2020, ranking 3.6% of all cancer diagnoses [2]. Lacking clinical symptoms and effective screening approaches in early stages, over half of patients are diagnosed with ovarian cancer at advanced diseases [3]. Multi-disciplinary therapies have been for the managements of ovarian cancer patients. Chemoresistance and relapse of ovarian cancer are the primary reason for the management failure in ovarian cancer [4, 5]. These data suggest the vital role of identifying novel biomarkers evaluating the clinical outcome and therapy benefits of ovarian cancer.

The interaction between malignancies and immune microenvironment exerts key roles in the advancement, spread and therapy resistance of ovarian cancer [6, 7]. Immune T cell infiltration, excluded T cell infiltration and desert T cell infiltration patterns, could lead to different therapeutic effect [8]. T cells are referred to as vital mediators of immunosurveillance and cancer eradication. Unbalanced regulation or lack of T cells in tumors resulted in immunotherapy resistance [9]. CD8⁺ T cell related signature could predict the clinical outcome of renal cell carcinoma patients [10]. Moreover, in breast cancer, CD8⁺ T-cell model was correlated with clinical outcome and drug sensitivity [11]. Another study also showed that CD8⁺ T-cell based model could predict clinical outcome and therapy benefits in lung adenocarcinoma [12]. In head and neck squamous cell carcinoma, CD8⁺ T-cell model could accurately predict

patients' prognosis and serve as an index for clinical treatment [13]. Thus, elucidating the T cell-related markers expression pattern and constructing a signature may help us manage the clinical outcome in ovarian cancer.

Our investigation identified T cell related markers in ovarian cancer by single cell analysis. Moreover, we constructed a machine learning algorithm-based T cells-related signature (TRS) using one TCGA dataset (training cohort) and four GEO datasets (testing cohort). Our result may offer more evidence regarding the vital roles of T cells in the clinical outcome and drug sensitivity in ovarian cancer.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Datasets

Work flow was shown in Figure 1. The single cell expression data of ovarian cancer was obtained from GSE147082 ($n = 6$) dataset. Ovarian cancer related bulk transcriptomics data (FKPM) were downloaded from TCGA ($n = 374$) database. GSE14764 (Platforms: GPL96, $n = 80$), GSE26193 (Platforms: GPL570, $n = 107$), GSE26712 (Platforms: GPL96, $n = 185$) and GSE140082 (Platforms: GPL14951, $n = 380$) datasets were used for verifying the TRS. Inclusion criteria for selecting ovarian cancer cases should be: (1) diagnosed with ovarian cancer using histological method; (2)

complete data about overall survival. While metastatic ovarian cancer and ovarian cancer along with other types of cancer should be excluded in the study. IMvigor210 and GSE91061 were used as validation cohort for predicting immunotherapy benefit.

Single-cell RNA-seq analysis

The procession of single cell expression dataset GSE147082 relied on "Seurat" R package [14]. Those genes that detected in less than 3 cells and cells with less than 50 detected gene numbers were ruled out. The mitochondria proportion was set as 5%. In order to normalize the expression data, we then performed principal component analysis. We then conducted unsupervised clustering analysis with UMAP methods [15]. In order to generate the marker genes of each cluster, we utilized "FindAllMarkers" function of "Seurat" R package and the threshold of the minimum cell population fraction in either of the two populations was set as 0.25. In order to identify the cell type of each cluster, we performed cell annotation analysis with "SingleR" package [16].

Integrative machine learning algorithms constructed a prognostic T cells-related signature

The screening of the prognostic markers in ovarian cancer in TCGA dataset relied on univariate cox regression analysis ($p < 0.05$). The development of

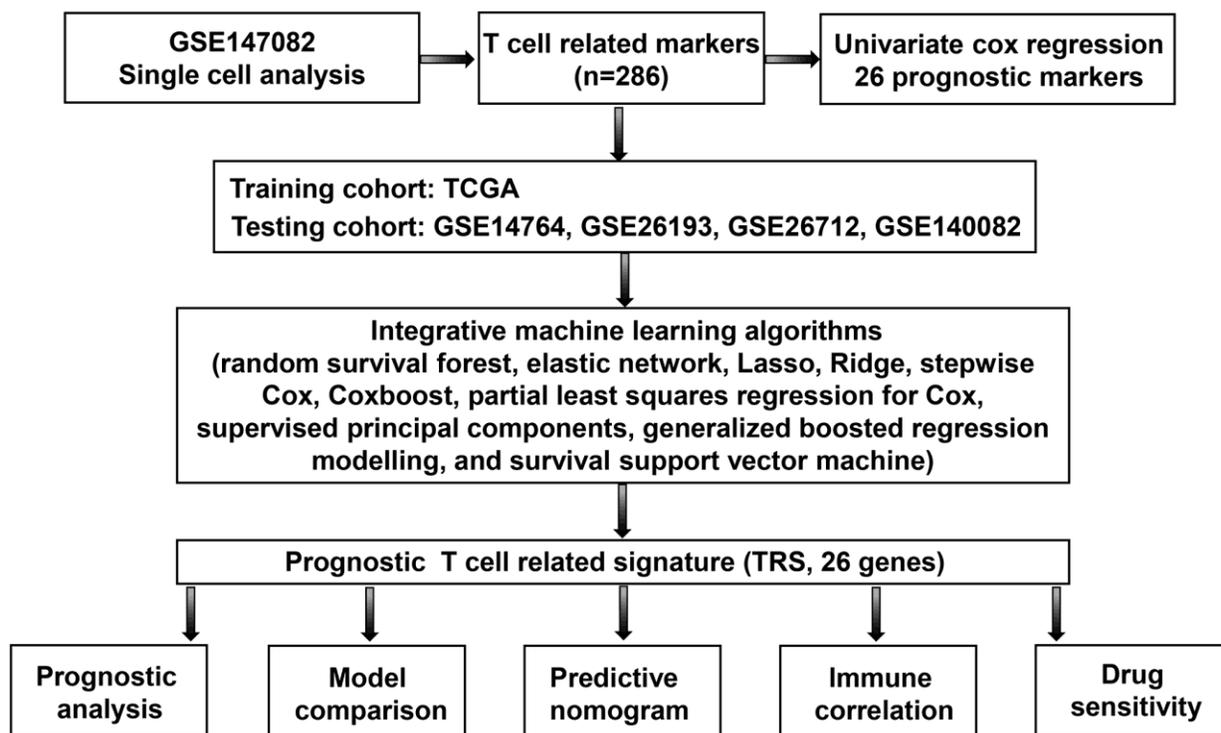


Figure 1. Workflow of the current study.

prognostic TRS relied on 10 integrative machine learning algorithms in ovarian cancer. The model with the highest average C-index in all datasets was suggested as the best model. Previous investigations have used similar machine learning algorithms [17–21]. After determining the optimal prognostic TRS, we could obtain the genes in the optimal prognostic TRS and the coefficient. On the basis of gene expressions and coefficient, we could calculate risk score of each ovarian cancer patients (risk score = the sum of the coefficient \times gene expression).

Evaluation of the performance of TRS

The generation of overall survival curve relied on “survival” package. Time ROC analysis was conducted to assess the performance of TRS in evaluating the prognosis of ovarian cancer with “timeROC” package. The C-indexes of TRS and stage and grade were calculated with “rms” package. Moreover, we also collected 25 ovarian cancer-related mRNA and lncRNA-related models randomly, and calculated their C-indexes. Considering clinical characters and TRS, univariate and multivariate cox analysis was conducted to identify the risk factors for the clinical outcome of ovarian cancer. We then constructed a predicting nomogram via “nomogramEx” R package on the basis of TRS and clinical characters in ovarian cancer.

Correlation between risk score and immune microenvironment and genetic mutation

The Immune score and ESTIMATE score of each ovarian cancer patient were determined by ESTIMATE algorithm [22]. A total of 7 immune algorithms, including CIBERSORT were used to evaluate the relative proportions of infiltrating immune cells in ovarian cancer. The abundance of immune cells and the score of immune-related activities or functions were relied on single sample gene set enrichment analysis using “GSVA” package. The genetic landscape was drawn with “maftools” package. Moreover, GSEA was performed to identify the biological functions linked to KEGG pathways TRS based high and low-risk groups.

Evaluation of the performance of TRS in predicting the drug sensitivity

From The Cancer Immunome Atlas (<https://tcia.at/home>), we generated the immunophenoscore (IPS) of ovarian cancer cases. The TIDE score of ovarian cancer cases were evaluated by TIDE methods. Drug sensitivity data were downloaded from Genomics of Drug Sensitivity in Cancer, with which we determined the half maximal

inhibitory concentration (IC50) value in each ovarian cancer case using “oncoPredict” package.

Availability of data and materials

The analyzed data sets generated during the study were sourced from the TCGA database (<https://portal.gdc.cancer.gov/repository>) and GEO database (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo>).

RESULTS

Single-cell analysis revealed cell subtypes and T cell related markers

A strong positive correlation (Cor = 0.89) was obtained between the number of genes and the sequencing depth after sample normalization (Figure 2A). We obtained 9885 high-quality cell samples from 6 ovarian cancer tissues after stringent quality control metrics (Figure 2B). These cell samples could be clustered into 17 clusters based on UMAP analysis (Figure 2C). Cell annotating performed with SingleR technique identified 10 types of cells, including T cells, B cells, Endothelial cells, Neuroepithelial cells, and Neurons etc. (Figure 2D). And 286 T cell-related markers were obtained (Supplementary Table 1).

Machine learning algorithms based prognostic TRS

Based on 286 T cell-related markers, we performed univariate cox analysis and identified 26 potential prognostic biomarkers (Supplementary Table 2). These 26 potential prognostic biomarkers were submitted into integrative procedure including 10 machine learning methods, which could conduct a prognostic TRS. Figure 3A showed the C-index of 101 kinds of prediction models in all datasets. The plsRcox method-based model was referred as the best model and it had a highest average C-index being 0.60 (Figure 3A). And a final set of 26 T cell-related genes were used to construct the TRS (Supplementary Table 2). Classification of high and low-risk groups relied on the medium value of risk score was the cutoff. As expected, in TCGA cohort, high-risk score indicated a poor OS rate in ovarian cancer with an AUCs of 1-, 3-, and 5-year ROC curve being 0.616, 0.711 and 0.745, respectively (Figure 3B, $p < 0.001$). In testing cohort, the data indicated a poor clinical outcome in high-risk score group in GSE14764, GSE26193, GSE26712 and GSE140082 cohort (Figure 3C–3F, all $p < 0.05$). ROC analysis measured the discrimination of TRS, with 1-, 3-, and 5-year AUCs of 0.444, 0.759, and 0.681 in GSE14764 dataset; 0.745, 0.633, and 0.649 in GSE26193 dataset; 0.568, 0.624, and 0.653 in GSE26712 dataset; 0.629, and 0.73 in GSE140082

dataset, respectively (Figure 3C–3F). The risk score, survival status, and gene expression of TRS of all cohorts could be seen in Supplementary Figure 1A–1E.

Evaluation of the performance of TRS

As shown in Figure 4A, compared with grade and FIGO stage, risk score had a highest C-index in all cohort. However, there was no clinical information in GSE26712 cohort. Moreover, risk score was a risk factor for the clinical outcome of ovarian cancer in all cohorts (Figure 4B). Supplementary Table 3 showed the C-index of our TRS and 25 random prognostic models () were also calculated. And the data showed that the C- index most of these prognostic signatures was lower than the current TRS (Figure 4C). These results suggested that our TRS had a better performance in evaluating the prognosis of ovarian cancer cases. Based on TRS, stage and grade, we then developed a survival prediction nomogram (Figure 4D, 4E), with which the clinicians could evaluate the clinical outcome of ovarian cancer patients.

TRS showed significant correlation with tumor microenvironment in ovarian cancer

Study had suggested six types of tumor immune landscape [22]. Most of TCGA ovarian cancer cases were IFN-g dominant(C2) type and lymphocyte depleted(C4) type ranked a higher proportion in high-risk score group compared with low-risk score group (Figure 5A, $p = 0.001$). Further analysis suggested a higher ESTIMATE score and Immunes core in low-risk score group (Figure 5B, all $p < 0.05$). Moreover, risk score had a negative correlation with the abundance of most of immune cells (Figure 5C). The result of the current study showed that low-risk score indicated a lower level of s M2/M1 proportion in TCGA and GSE140082 cohort (Figure 5D). Moreover, ovarian cancer patients with high-risk score correlated a lower level of T cells, B cells, NK cells, Th1 cells, Th2 cells and neutrophils (Figure 5E). Ovarian cancer cases with high-risk score demonstrated a lower score of immune related functions in ovarian cancer, including cytolytic activity and inflammation promoting (Figure 5F, all $p < 0.05$).

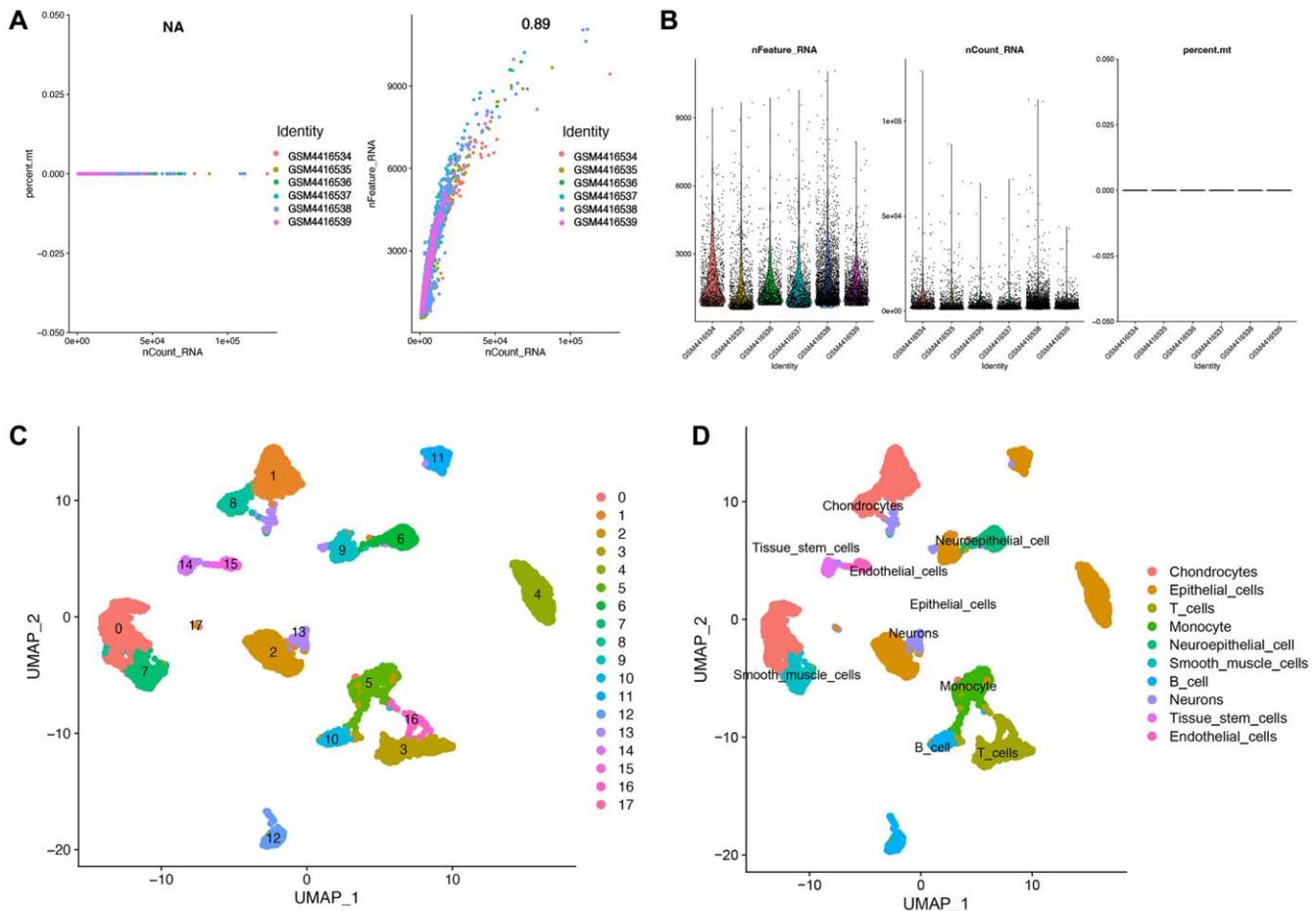


Figure 2. Identification of T cell-related markers in ovarian cancer. (A) Post quality control filtering of each sequenced cell. (B) Association analysis between nFeature and nCount. (C) A total of 17 clusters of all samples were identified after UMAP analysis. (D) A total of 10 subtypes of cells were identified based on SingleR annotation methods.

Further analysis revealed that high-risk score indicated a lower level of most of HLA-related genes (Figure 5G).

TRS-based treatment strategy for ovarian cancer

Several indicators were then used to assess the functions of TRS in predicting immunotherapy benefits in ovarian

cancer. As shown in Figure 6A, higher expression of many immune checkpoints was found in low-risk score group (all $p < 0.05$). TIDE score and T cell exclusion score could predict the immunotherapy benefits [23, 24]. Low TIDE score and T cell exclusion score indicated a better response to immunotherapy. As shown in Figure 6B, 6C, low-risk score group had a

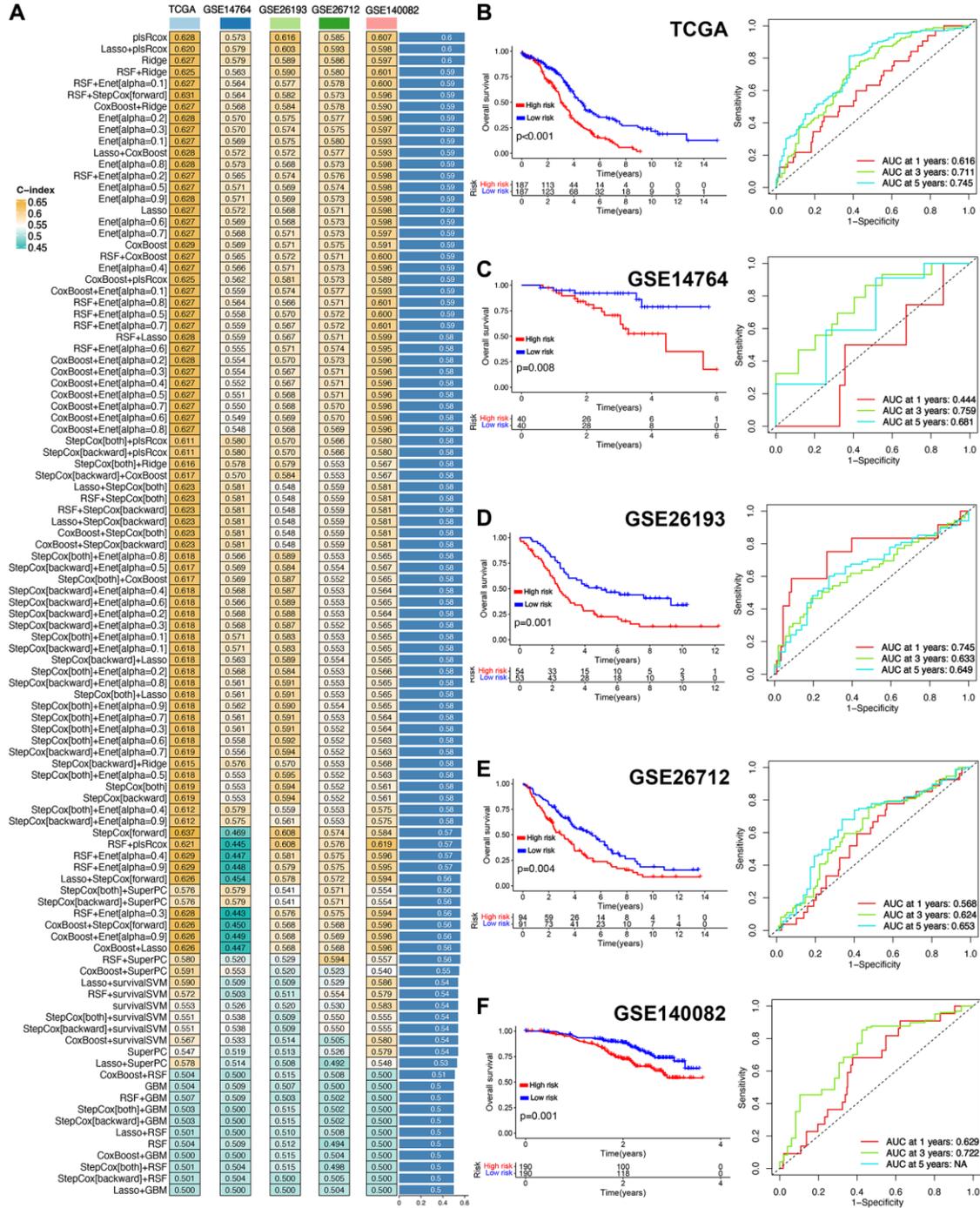


Figure 3. Prognostic T cell-related signature (TRS) developed with integrative machine learning analysis. (A) The C-index of each prognostic model constructed by 10 machine learning algorithms and 101 kinds of combinations in training and testing cohort. The survival curve and corresponding ROC curve of ovarian cancer with high and low-risk score in TCGA (B), GSE14764 (C), GSE26193 (D), GSE26172 (E) and GSE140082 (F) cohort.

lower T cell exclusion score in ovarian cancer and TIDE score (all $p < 0.05$). IPS was an indicator for predicting the response to immunotherapy [25]. Low-risk score group had a increased IPS of anti-CTLA4 and

anti-PD1 (Figure 6D, $p < 0.05$). In IMvigor210 cohort and GSE91061 cohorts, low-risk score was obtained in patients in CR/PR group with an AUC of 0.678 and 0.749 in ROC curve (Figure 6E, 6F, $p < 0.001$).

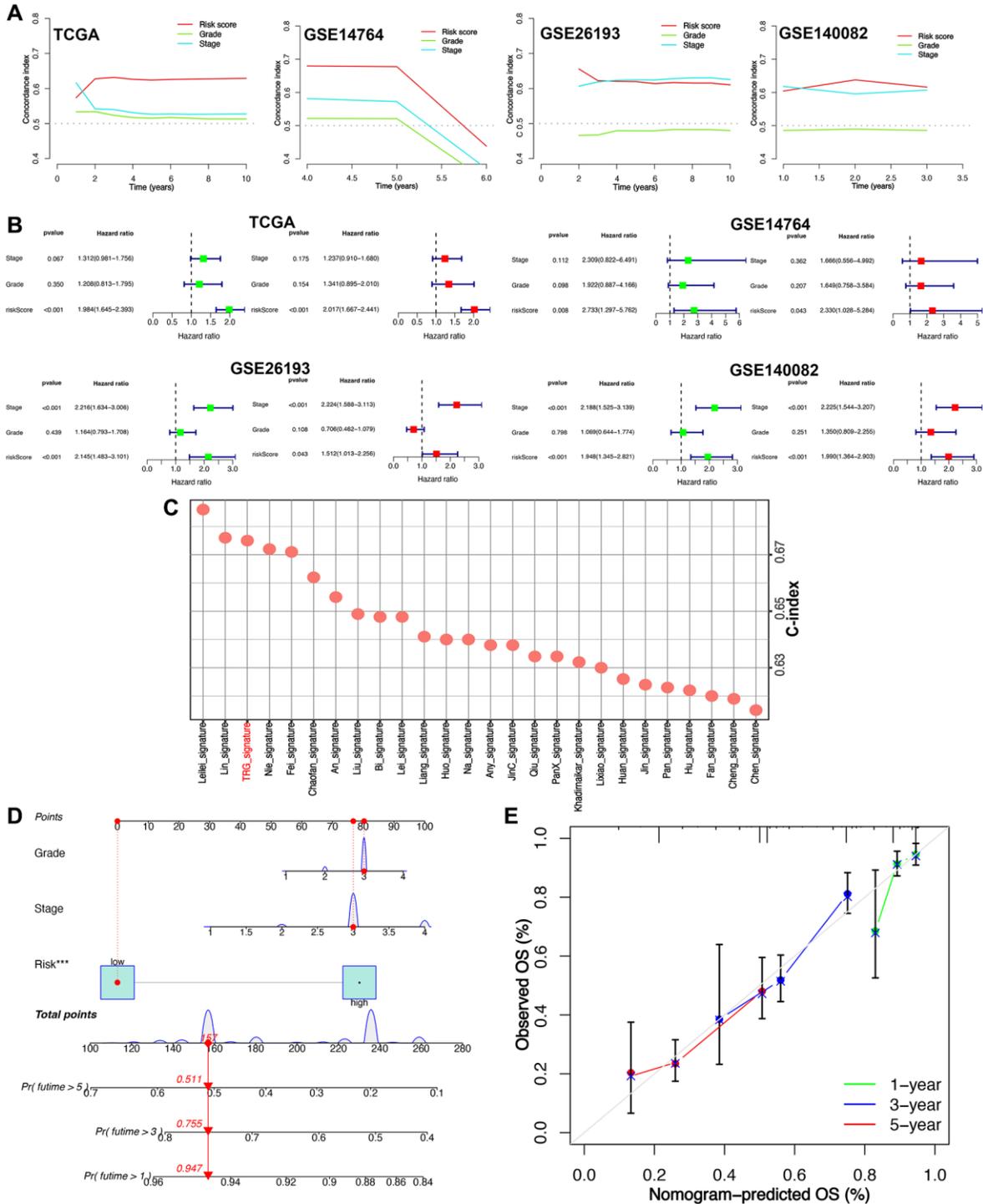


Figure 4. The role of T cell-related signature (TRS) in predicting the prognosis of ovarian cancer. (A) C-index evaluated the overall survival rate of ovarian cancer patients in training and testing cohort. (B) Univariate and multivariate cox regression analysis considering grade, stage and TRS in training and testing cohort. (C) C-index of TRS and other established signatures evaluated discrimination of TRS in predicting the prognosis of ovarian cancer patients. (D, E) Prediction nomogram for predicting the 1-, 3-, and 5-year OS rate of ovarian cancer.

Moreover, high-risk score indicated a poor OS rate in IMvigor210 dataset and GSE91061 dataset, with 1-, 3-, and 5-year AUCs of 0.654, 0.684, and NA; and 0.837, 0.809 and 0.852, respectively. (Figure 6G, 6H).

Chemotherapy and endocrinotherapy were important therapeutic measures for ovarian cancer. We also detected the IC50 value of common drugs in high and low-risk score groups. As shown in Figure 7A–7I, the

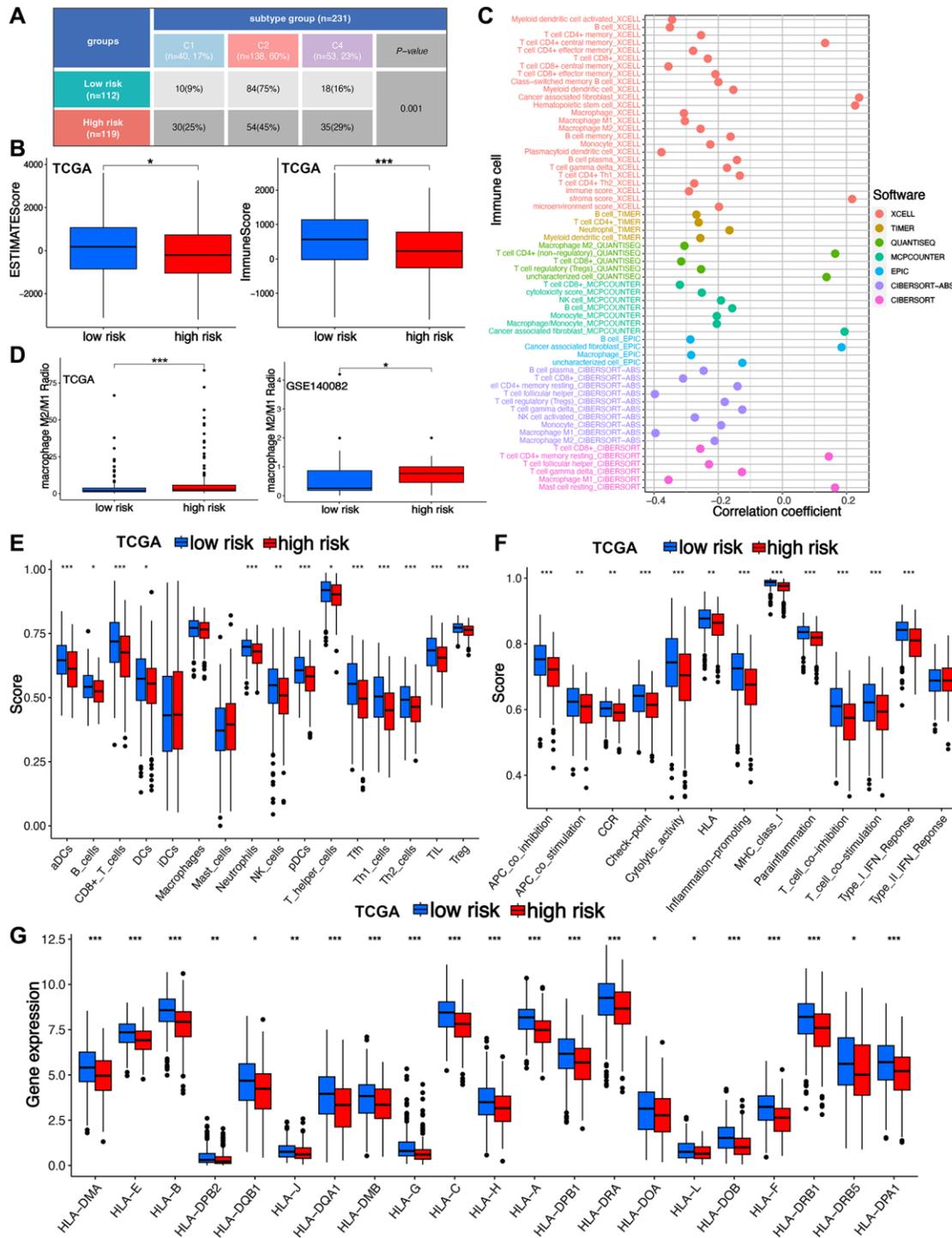


Figure 5. Dissection of T cell-related signature (TRS)-based tumor microenvironment (TME). (A) Tumor immune landscape in ovarian cancer with high and low-risk score. (B) The TME score difference in different risk score group of ovarian cancer. (C) The correlation between TRS and immune infiltration in ovarian cancer. (D) The level of macrophages M2/M1 proportion in ovarian cancer patients with high and low-risk score in TCGA and GSE140082 cohort. The difference of the score of immune cells (E), immune-related functions (F) and HLA-related genes (G) in different risk score group of ovarian cancer. * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$.

IC50 values of 5-Fluorouracil, Bortezomib, Cisplatin, Cyclophosphamide, Erlotinib, Fludarabine, Fulvestrant, Ribociclib, Topotecan were higher in high-risk score group versus low-risk score group (all $p < 0.05$), demonstrated that low-risk score had a better response to chemotherapy, endocrinotherapy, target therapy in ovarian cancer.

TRS-based mutation landscape in ovarian cancer

The mutation landscape of ovarian cancer patients with low and high-risk scores were shown in Supplementary Figure 2A, 2B. TP53, TTN, and CSMD3 were top three most frequently mutated genes. A higher tumor

mutational burden (TMB) score was seen in ovarian cancer patients with low-risk score (Supplementary Figure 2C, $p = 0.0018$). Moreover, negative correlation was seen between risk score and TMB score (Supplementary Figure 2D, $p = 0.00055$). As shown in Supplementary Figure 2E, 2F, low TMB score and high-risk score indicated a poor clinical outcome ($p < 0.001$).

TRS-based functional enrichment difference in ovarian cancer

The data revealed that high-risk score was mainly linked to ECM receptor interaction, focal adhesion, melanoma,

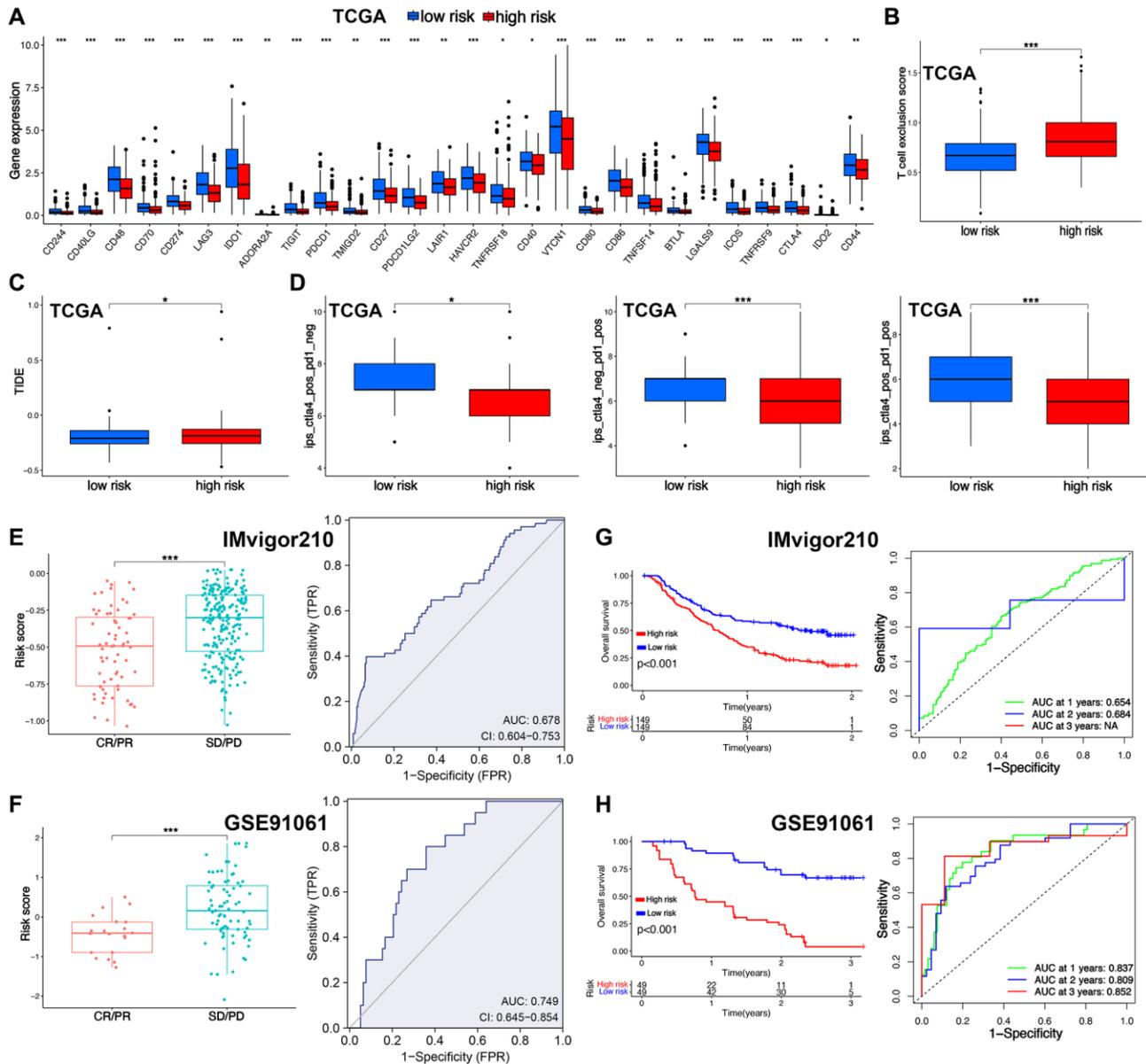


Figure 6. T cell-related signature (TRS)-based treatment strategy for ovarian cancer. The level of immune checkpoints (A), T cell exclusion score (B), TIDE score (C), immunophenoscore (D) in ovarian cancer patients with high and low-risk score. The risk score in CR/PR and SD/PD group and corresponding ROC curve in GSE91061 (E) and IMvigor210 (F) cohort. The OS curve in patients with high and low-risk score in GSE91061 (G) and IMvigor210 (H) cohort. * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$.

pathways in cancer and ribosome (Supplementary Figure 3A). Low-risk score was mainly linked to antigen processing and presentation and type I diabetes mellitus (Supplementary Figure 3B).

TRS-based unsupervised clustering

Consensus clustering was conducted to identify unidentified subclasses in ovarian cancer. As shown in Supplementary Figure 4A, 4B, ovarian cancer patients could be well clustered into three subtypes according to the consensus CDF and delta area. Among these three clusters, cluster 1 had a best OS rate compared with cluster 2/3 in ovarian cancer (Supplementary Figure 4C, $p < 0.001$). Most of cluster 1 patients was correlated with low-risk while most of cluster 2 was

correlated with high-risk (Supplementary Figure 4D). Further tSNE indicated significant differences of TRS gene expression among these three clusters (Supplementary Figure 4E). Moreover, these three clusters had a significant difference in TME. As shown in Supplementary Figure 4F, cluster 1 had a highest abundance of immune cells while cluster 2 had a lowest abundance. As we could see in Supplementary Figure 4G, 4H, ovarian cancer in cluster 1 had a highest level of ESTIMATE score, Immune score, and immune checkpoints (all $p < 0.05$).

DISCUSSION

As one of the most common malignancies among women, ovarian cancer could result in poor prognosis [26].

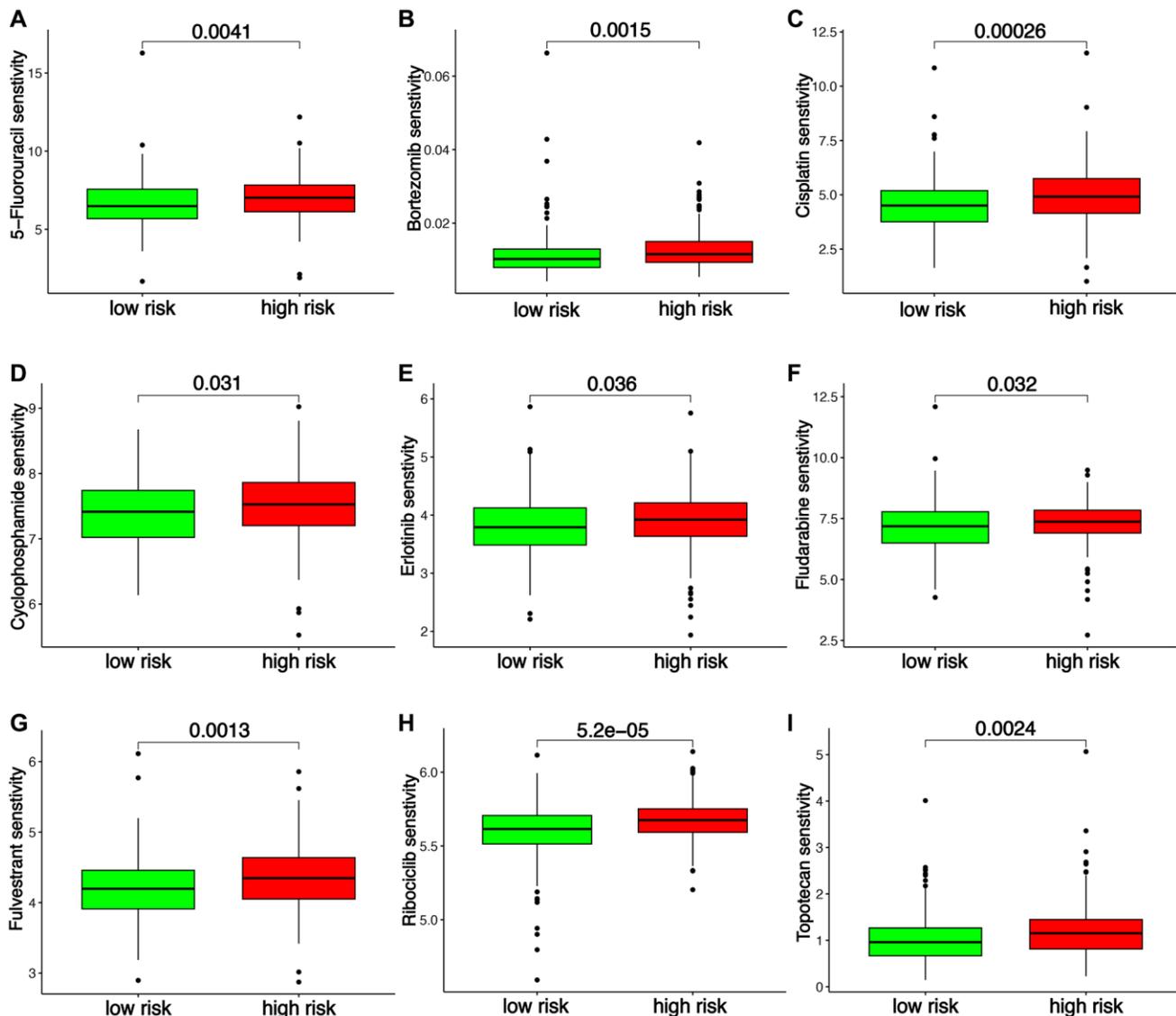


Figure 7. T cell-related signature (TRS)-based treatment strategy for ovarian cancer. The IC50 values of 5-Fluorouracil (A), Bortezomib (B), Cisplatin (C), Cyclophosphamide (D), Erlotinib (E), Fludarabine (F), Fulvestrant (G), Ribociclib (H) and Topotecan (I) in different risk score group of ovarian cancer.

Immune TME imbalance is one of the most conspicuous features of ovarian cancer [27]. The TME contains of immune cells stromal cells, and tumor cells [28]. Immune cells mediating the adaptive immune responses exerted a crucial function in tumor progression, thus affecting the prognosis of patients [12]. As one of predominant antitumor effector cells in the TME, T cell acted as a cytotoxic role and exerted vital roles in cancer cell clearance [29].

In our study, single cell analysis was performed to identify T cell related markers. After that, univariate cox analysis was conducted to screen out 26 novel prognostic markers for ovarian cancer. An integrative pipeline was developed to construct a powerful TRS using 10 machine learning algorithms. Among 101 kinds of prognostic models, the plsRcox method-based model was referred as the best model and it had a highest average C-index being 0.60. Interestingly, TRS was as an independent risk factor for the clinical outcome in ovarian cancer. Prognosis analysis suggested a poor OS rate in high-risk score group. Moreover, the performance of TRS in predicting the clinical outcome of ovarian cancer cases was better than stage and grade.

In fact, many prognostic signatures have been developed in ovarian cancer. Immune-related signature could be used to evaluate the prognosis of ovarian cancer [30]. A panel of glycometabolism-related signature was linked to the prognosis for ovarian cancer [31]. Zhang et al. also constructed an oxidative stress-related signature predicting OS in ovarian cancer [32]. Moreover, glycolysis-based model [33], transcription factors related model [34], ferroptosis based model [35] and invasion-based model [36] could be used to evaluate the prognosis of ovarian cancer patients.

GSEA analysis indicated that high-risk score was mainly linked to focal adhesion, melanoma, pathways in cancer and ribosome. While patients with low-risk score were mainly correlated with antigen processing and presentation and type I diabetes mellitus. Thus, high-risk score was mainly correlated with pathways involved in tumor progression, which may be the reason why high-risk score group had a poor prognosis in ovarian cancer. While low-risk score ovarian cancer patients may be mainly correlated with pathways involved in immune response.

Our study also found that high-risk score group had a lower level of ESTIMATE score, Immune score, lower abundance of T cells, B cells, NK cells, Th1 cells, Th2 cells and neutrophils, lower level of most of HLA-related genes, and higher macrophages M2/M1 proportion. Higher Estimate scores indicate the lower the tumor purity [37]. T cells and NK cells play a vital

role in eradicating tumor cells [38]. These explains why low-risk score group have a better clinical outcome. Studies highlighted the vital role of immunotherapy in the treatment of cancer. Many medications targeting PD-1, PD-L1 or CTLA4, such as nivolumab and pembrolizumab, could be used to manage many types of cancer in the first-line therapy [39, 40]. The current evidence showed that immunotherapy response rates among ovarian cancer patients remain modest [41]. Further study focused on immunotherapy response in ovarian cancer need to be performed. The current study used various indicators to assess the functions of TRS in predicting the immunotherapy benefits in ovarian cancer. The results revealed that ovarian cancer patients with high-risk score had a higher IPS, TMB score, and TME score and lower TIDE score. High TMB score indicated more neoantigens, resulting in that the tumor would be attacked by a large number of tumor-specific T cells [42]. Thus, TRS could be used to predict the immunotherapy response and chemotherapy response in ovarian cancer. In addition to surgery, chemotherapy was one of most key measures for treating ovarian cancer. Chemoresistance was refer as the major causes for the treating failure of ovarian cancer [43]. Thus, low-risk score indicated a better response to chemotherapy in ovarian cancer.

Some limitations could be found in our study. All the analyses were performed at RNA level, not representing the results of protein levels. Moreover, the level and prognosis of TRS in ovarian cancer should be verified with clinical tissues.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, we constructed a powerful TRS in ovarian cancer, which could accurately predict the clinical outcome of patients and be used to predict the immunotherapy response and chemotherapy response.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Yunzheng Zhang: Writing-Original draft preparation, Investigation, Writing-Reviewing. Lipeng Pei: Study design and Supervision, Conceptualization, Methodology. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The authors declare no conflicts of interest related to this study.

FUNDING

This study was funded by the 2022 Liaoning Province Applied Basic Research Program (Joint Program):

Mechanism and Clinical Application Research of Targeted MCM4 Therapy for Endometrial Cancer Based on Molecular Docking Technology (2022JH2/101500019).

REFERENCES

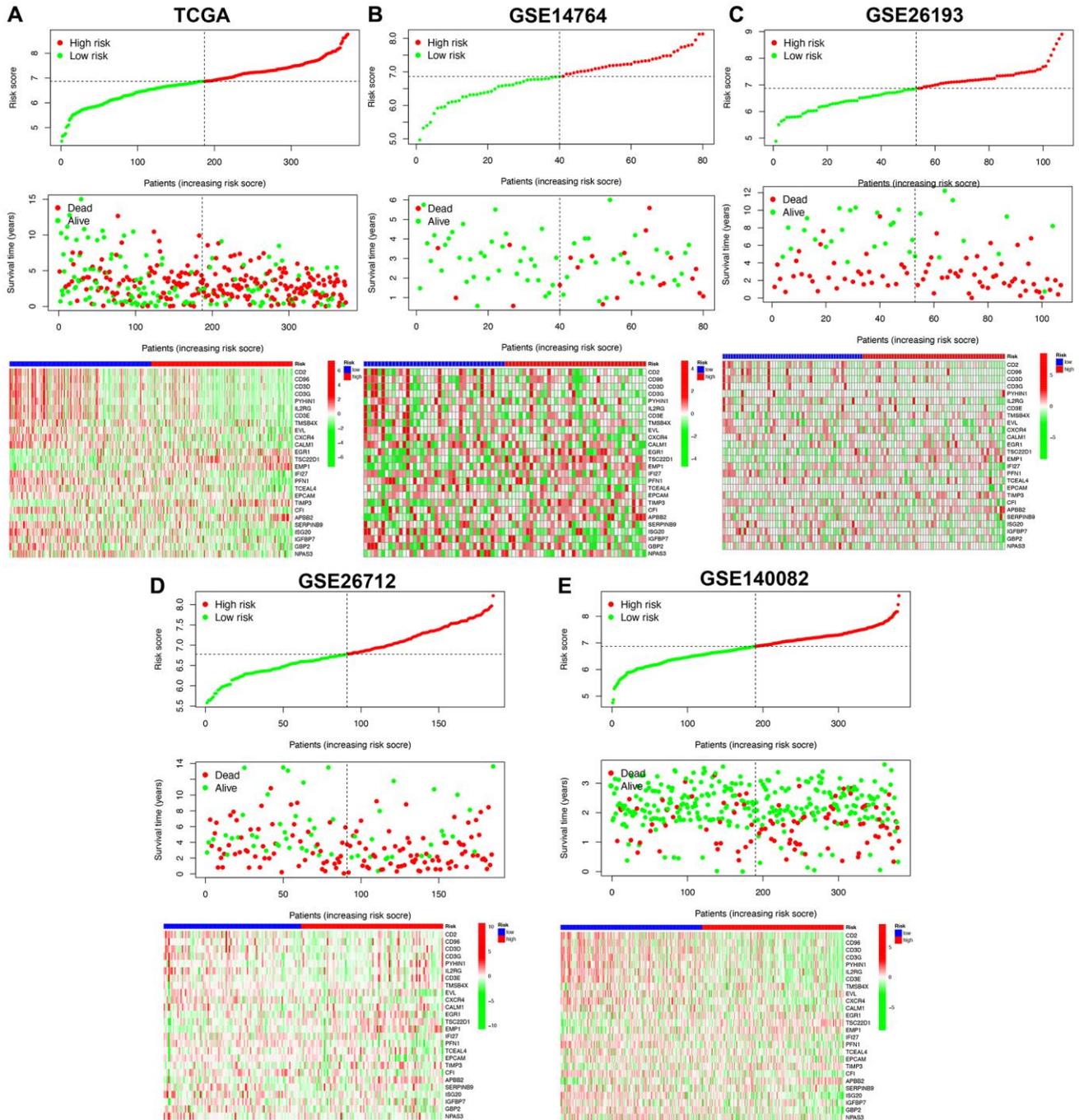
1. Armstrong DK, Alvarez RD, Bakkum-Gamez JN, Barroilhet L, Behbakht K, Berchuck A, Chen LM, Cristea M, DeRosa M, Eisenhauer EL, Gershenson DM, Gray HJ, Grisham R, et al. Ovarian Cancer, Version 2.2020, NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology. *J Natl Compr Canc Netw.* 2021; 19:191–226. <https://doi.org/10.6004/jnccn.2021.0007> PMID:33545690
2. Feng J, Yu Y, Yin W, Qian S. Development and verification of a 7-lncRNA prognostic model based on tumor immunity for patients with ovarian cancer. *J Ovarian Res.* 2023; 16:31. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13048-023-01099-0> PMID:36739404
3. Ye Y, Dai Q, Qi H. A novel defined pyroptosis-related gene signature for predicting the prognosis of ovarian cancer. *Cell Death Discov.* 2021; 7:71. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41420-021-00451-x> PMID:33828074
4. Jiang Y, Wang C, Zhou S. Targeting tumor microenvironment in ovarian cancer: Premise and promise. *Biochim Biophys Acta Rev Cancer.* 2020; 1873:188361. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bbcan.2020.188361> PMID:32234508
5. Kuroki L, Guntupalli SR. Treatment of epithelial ovarian cancer. *BMJ.* 2020; 371:m3773. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.m3773> PMID:33168565
6. Hinshaw DC, Shevde LA. The Tumor Microenvironment Innately Modulates Cancer Progression. *Cancer Res.* 2019; 79:4557–66. <https://doi.org/10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-18-3962> PMID:31350295
7. Dai Y, Qiang W, Lin K, Gui Y, Lan X, Wang D. An immune-related gene signature for predicting survival and immunotherapy efficacy in hepatocellular carcinoma. *Cancer Immunol Immunother.* 2021; 70:967–79. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00262-020-02743-0> PMID:33089373
8. Hornburg M, Desbois M, Lu S, Guan Y, Lo AA, Kaufman S, Elrod A, Lotstein A, DesRochers TM, Munoz-Rodriguez JL, Wang X, Giltneane J, Mayba O, et al. Single-cell dissection of cellular components and interactions shaping the tumor immune phenotypes in ovarian cancer. *Cancer Cell.* 2021; 39:928–44.e6. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ccell.2021.04.004> PMID:33961783
9. Shi X, Dong A, Jia X, Zheng G, Wang N, Wang Y, Yang C, Lu J, Yang Y. Integrated analysis of single-cell and bulk RNA-sequencing identifies a signature based on T-cell marker genes to predict prognosis and therapeutic response in lung squamous cell carcinoma. *Front Immunol.* 2022; 13:992990. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fimmu.2022.992990> PMID:36311764
10. Wang J, Huang F, Zhao J, Huang P, Tan J, Huang M, Ma R, Xiao Y, He S, Wang Z, Shen J, Lu H, Meng L. Tumor-Infiltrated CD8+ T Cell 10-Genes Signature Related to Clear Cell Renal Cell Carcinoma Prognosis. *Front Immunol.* 2022; 13:930921. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fimmu.2022.930921> PMID:35812454
11. Dong H, Xie C, Yao Z, Zhao R, Lin Y, Luo Y, Chen S, Qin Y, Chen Y, Zhang H. PTPRO-related CD8+ T-cell signatures predict prognosis and immunotherapy response in patients with breast cancer. *Front Immunol.* 2022; 13:947841. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fimmu.2022.947841> PMID:36003382
12. Zhang M, Ma J, Guo Q, Ding S, Wang Y, Pu H. CD8+ T Cell-Associated Gene Signature Correlates With Prognosis Risk and Immunotherapy Response in Patients With Lung Adenocarcinoma. *Front Immunol.* 2022; 13:806877. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fimmu.2022.806877> PMID:35273597
13. Zhang S, Zhang W, Zhang J. 8-Genes signature related to CD8+ T cell infiltration by integrating single-cell and bulk RNA-sequencing in head and neck squamous cell carcinoma. *Front Genet.* 2022; 13:938611. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fgene.2022.938611> PMID:35938006
14. Sun Y, Wu L, Zhong Y, Zhou K, Hou Y, Wang Z, Zhang Z, Xie J, Wang C, Chen D, Huang Y, Wei X, Shi Y, et al. Single-cell landscape of the ecosystem in early-relapse hepatocellular carcinoma. *Cell.* 2021; 184:404–21.e16. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ccell.2020.11.041> PMID:33357445
15. Becht E, McInnes L, Healy J, Dutertre CA, Kwok IWH, Ng LG, Ginhoux F, Newell EW. Dimensionality reduction for visualizing single-cell data using UMAP. *Nat Biotechnol.* 2018. [Epub ahead of print]. <https://doi.org/10.1038/nbt.4314> PMID:30531897
16. Aran D, Looney AP, Liu L, Wu E, Fong V, Hsu A, Chak S, Naikawadi RP, Wolters PJ, Abate AR, Butte AJ,

- Bhattacharya M. Reference-based analysis of lung single-cell sequencing reveals a transitional profibrotic macrophage. *Nat Immunol.* 2019; 20:163–72.
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41590-018-0276-y>
PMID:30643263
17. Liu Z, Liu L, Weng S, Guo C, Dang Q, Xu H, Wang L, Lu T, Zhang Y, Sun Z, Han X. Machine learning-based integration develops an immune-derived lncRNA signature for improving outcomes in colorectal cancer. *Nat Commun.* 2022; 13:816.
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-022-28421-6>
PMID:35145098
18. Liu Z, Guo C, Dang Q, Wang L, Liu L, Weng S, Xu H, Lu T, Sun Z, Han X. Integrative analysis from multi-center studies identifies a consensus machine learning-derived lncRNA signature for stage II/III colorectal cancer. *EBioMedicine.* 2022; 75:103750.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ebiom.2021.103750>
PMID:34922323
19. Zhang H, Zhang N, Wu W, Zhou R, Li S, Wang Z, Dai Z, Zhang L, Liu Z, Zhang J, Luo P, Liu Z, Cheng Q. Machine learning-based tumor-infiltrating immune cell-associated lncRNAs for predicting prognosis and immunotherapy response in patients with glioblastoma. *Brief Bioinform.* 2022; 23:bbac386.
<https://doi.org/10.1093/bib/bbac386>
PMID:36136350
20. Zhao B, Pei L. A macrophage related signature for predicting prognosis and drug sensitivity in ovarian cancer based on integrative machine learning. *BMC Med Genomics.* 2023; 16:230.
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12920-023-01671-z>
PMID:37784081
21. Li Z, Guo M, Lin W, Huang P. Machine Learning-Based Integration Develops a Macrophage-Related Index for Predicting Prognosis and Immunotherapy Response in Lung Adenocarcinoma. *Arch Med Res.* 2023; 54:102897.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.arcmed.2023.102897>
PMID:37865004
22. Thorsson V, Gibbs DL, Brown SD, Wolf D, Bortone DS, Ou Yang TH, Porta-Pardo E, Gao GF, Plaisier CL, Eddy JA, Ziv E, Culhane AC, Paull EO, et al, and Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network. The Immune Landscape of Cancer. *Immunity.* 2018; 48:812–30.e14.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.immuni.2018.03.023>
PMID:29628290
23. Fu J, Li K, Zhang W, Wan C, Zhang J, Jiang P, Liu XS. Large-scale public data reuse to model immunotherapy response and resistance. *Genome Med.* 2020; 12:21.
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s13073-020-0721-z>
PMID:32102694
24. Jiang P, Gu S, Pan D, Fu J, Sahu A, Hu X, Li Z, Traugh N, Bu X, Li B, Liu J, Freeman GJ, Brown MA, et al. Signatures of T cell dysfunction and exclusion predict cancer immunotherapy response. *Nat Med.* 2018; 24:1550–8.
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41591-018-0136-1>
PMID:30127393
25. Charoentong P, Finotello F, Angelova M, Mayer C, Efremova M, Rieder D, Hackl H, Trajanoski Z. Pan-cancer Immunogenomic Analyses Reveal Genotype-Immunophenotype Relationships and Predictors of Response to Checkpoint Blockade. *Cell Rep.* 2017; 18:248–62.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.celrep.2016.12.019>
PMID:28052254
26. Wang JY, Lu AQ, Chen LJ. lncRNAs in ovarian cancer. *Clin Chim Acta.* 2019; 490:17–27.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cca.2018.12.013>
PMID:30553863
27. Bejarano L, Jordão MJC, Joyce JA. Therapeutic Targeting of the Tumor Microenvironment. *Cancer Discov.* 2021; 11:933–59.
<https://doi.org/10.1158/2159-8290.CD-20-1808>
PMID:33811125
28. Dey P, Kimmelman AC, DePinho RA. Metabolic Codependencies in the Tumor Microenvironment. *Cancer Discov.* 2021; 11:1067–81.
<https://doi.org/10.1158/2159-8290.CD-20-1211>
PMID:33504580
29. Jhunjhunwala S, Hammer C, Delamarre L. Antigen presentation in cancer: insights into tumour immunogenicity and immune evasion. *Nat Rev Cancer.* 2021; 21:298–312.
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41568-021-00339-z>
PMID:33750922
30. Pan X, Bi F. A Potential Immune-Related Long Non-coding RNA Prognostic Signature for Ovarian Cancer. *Front Genet.* 2021; 12:694009.
<https://doi.org/10.3389/fgene.2021.694009>
PMID:34367253
31. Liu L, Cai L, Liu C, Yu S, Li B, Pan L, Zhao J, Zhao Y, Li W, Yan X. Construction and Validation of a Novel Glycometabolism-Related Gene Signature Predicting Survival in Patients With Ovarian Cancer. *Front Genet.* 2020; 11:585259.
<https://doi.org/10.3389/fgene.2020.585259>
PMID:33281878
32. Zhang J, Yang L, Xiang X, Li Z, Qu K, Li K. A panel of three oxidative stress-related genes predicts overall survival in ovarian cancer patients received platinum-based chemotherapy. *Aging (Albany NY).* 2018; 10:1366–79.

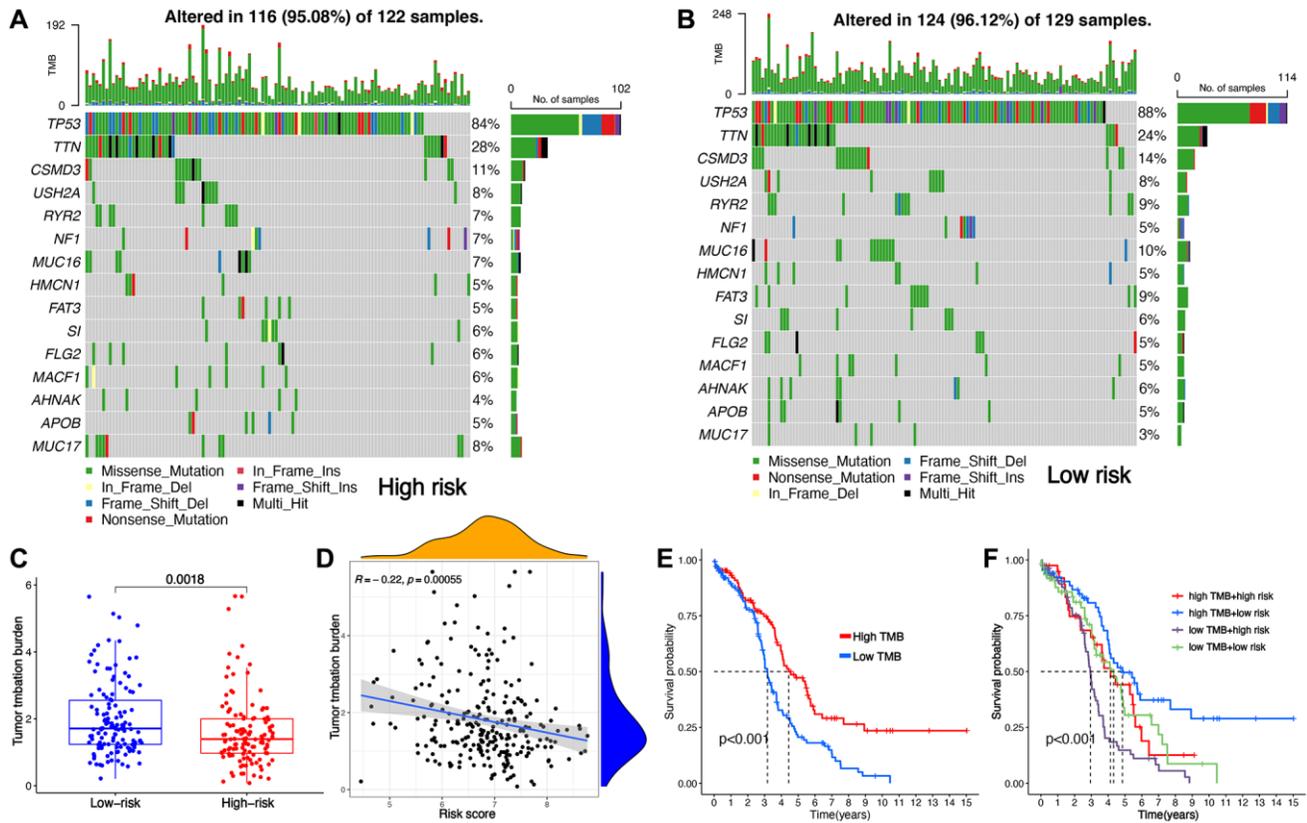
- <https://doi.org/10.18632/aging.101473>
PMID:29910195
33. Bi J, Bi F, Pan X, Yang Q. Establishment of a novel glycolysis-related prognostic gene signature for ovarian cancer and its relationships with immune infiltration of the tumor microenvironment. *J Transl Med.* 2021; 19:382.
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12967-021-03057-0>
PMID:34496868
34. Cheng Q, Li L, Yu M. Construction and validation of a transcription factors-based prognostic signature for ovarian cancer. *J Ovarian Res.* 2022; 15:29.
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s13048-021-00938-2>
PMID:35227285
35. Wang H, Cheng Q, Chang K, Bao L, Yi X. Integrated Analysis of Ferroptosis-Related Biomarker Signatures to Improve the Diagnosis and Prognosis Prediction of Ovarian Cancer. *Front Cell Dev Biol.* 2022; 9:807862.
<https://doi.org/10.3389/fcell.2021.807862>
PMID:35071242
36. Liang L, Li J, Yu J, Liu J, Xiu L, Zeng J, Wang T, Li N, Wu L. Establishment and validation of a novel invasion-related gene signature for predicting the prognosis of ovarian cancer. *Cancer Cell Int.* 2022; 22:118.
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12935-022-02502-4>
PMID:35292033
37. Yoshihara K, Shahmoradgoli M, Martínez E, Vegesna R, Kim H, Torres-Garcia W, Treviño V, Shen H, Laird PW, Levine DA, Carter SL, Getz G, Stemke-Hale K, et al. Inferring tumour purity and stromal and immune cell admixture from expression data. *Nat Commun.* 2013; 4:2612.
<https://doi.org/10.1038/ncomms3612>
PMID:24113773
38. Lin W, Chen Y, Wu B, Chen Y, Li Z. Identification of the pyroptosis-related prognostic gene signature and the associated regulation axis in lung adenocarcinoma. *Cell Death Discov.* 2021; 7:161.
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41420-021-00557-2>
PMID:34226539
39. Doki Y, Ajani JA, Kato K, Xu J, Wyrwicz L, Motoyama S, Ogata T, Kawakami H, Hsu CH, Adenis A, El Hajbi F, Di Bartolomeo M, Braghiroli MI, et al, and CheckMate 648 Trial Investigators. Nivolumab Combination Therapy in Advanced Esophageal Squamous-Cell Carcinoma. *N Engl J Med.* 2022; 386:449–62.
<https://doi.org/10.1056/NEJMoa2111380>
PMID:35108470
40. Janjigian YY, Shitara K, Moehler M, Garrido M, Salman P, Shen L, Wyrwicz L, Yamaguchi K, Skocyzylas T, Campos Bragagnoli A, Liu T, Schenker M, Yanez P, et al. First-line nivolumab plus chemotherapy versus chemotherapy alone for advanced gastric, gastro-oesophageal junction, and oesophageal adenocarcinoma (CheckMate 649): a randomised, open-label, phase 3 trial. *Lancet.* 2021; 398:27–40.
[https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(21\)00797-2](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(21)00797-2)
PMID:34102137
41. Yang C, Xia BR, Zhang ZC, Zhang YJ, Lou G, Jin WL. Immunotherapy for Ovarian Cancer: Adjuvant, Combination, and Neoadjuvant. *Front Immunol.* 2020; 11:577869.
<https://doi.org/10.3389/fimmu.2020.577869>
PMID:33123161
42. Samstein RM, Lee CH, Shoushtari AN, Hellmann MD, Shen R, Janjigian YY, Barron DA, Zehir A, Jordan EJ, Omuro A, Kaley TJ, Kendall SM, Motzer RJ, et al. Tumor mutational load predicts survival after immunotherapy across multiple cancer types. *Nat Genet.* 2019; 51:202–6.
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41588-018-0312-8>
PMID:30643254
43. Tian W, Lei N, Zhou J, Chen M, Guo R, Qin B, Li Y, Chang L. Extracellular vesicles in ovarian cancer chemoresistance, metastasis, and immune evasion. *Cell Death Dis.* 2022; 13:64.
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41419-022-04510-8>
PMID:35042862

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

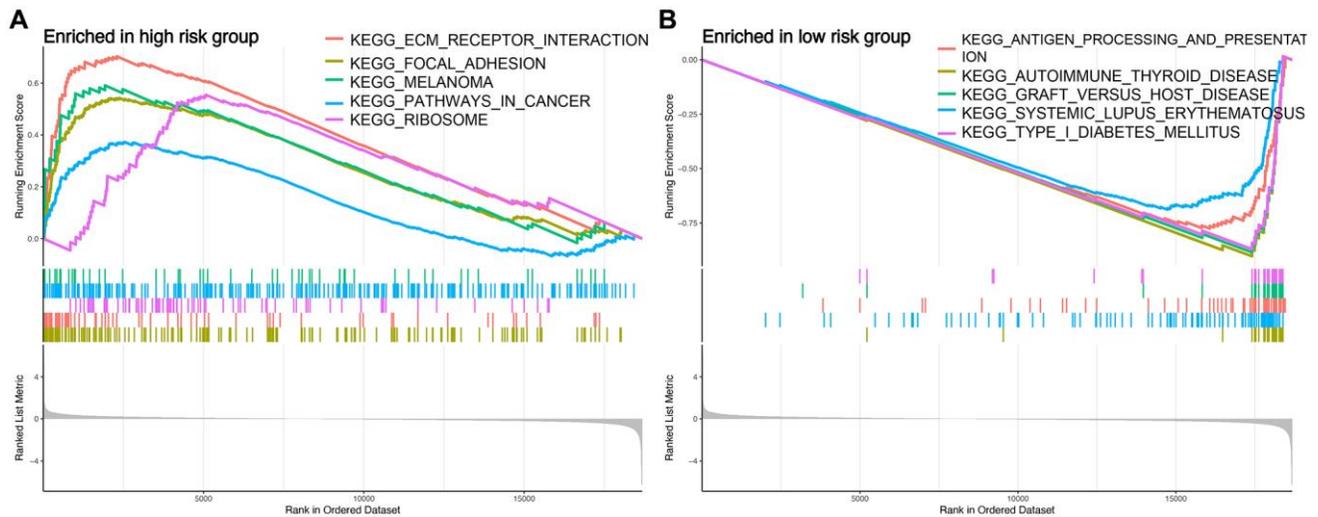
Supplementary Figures



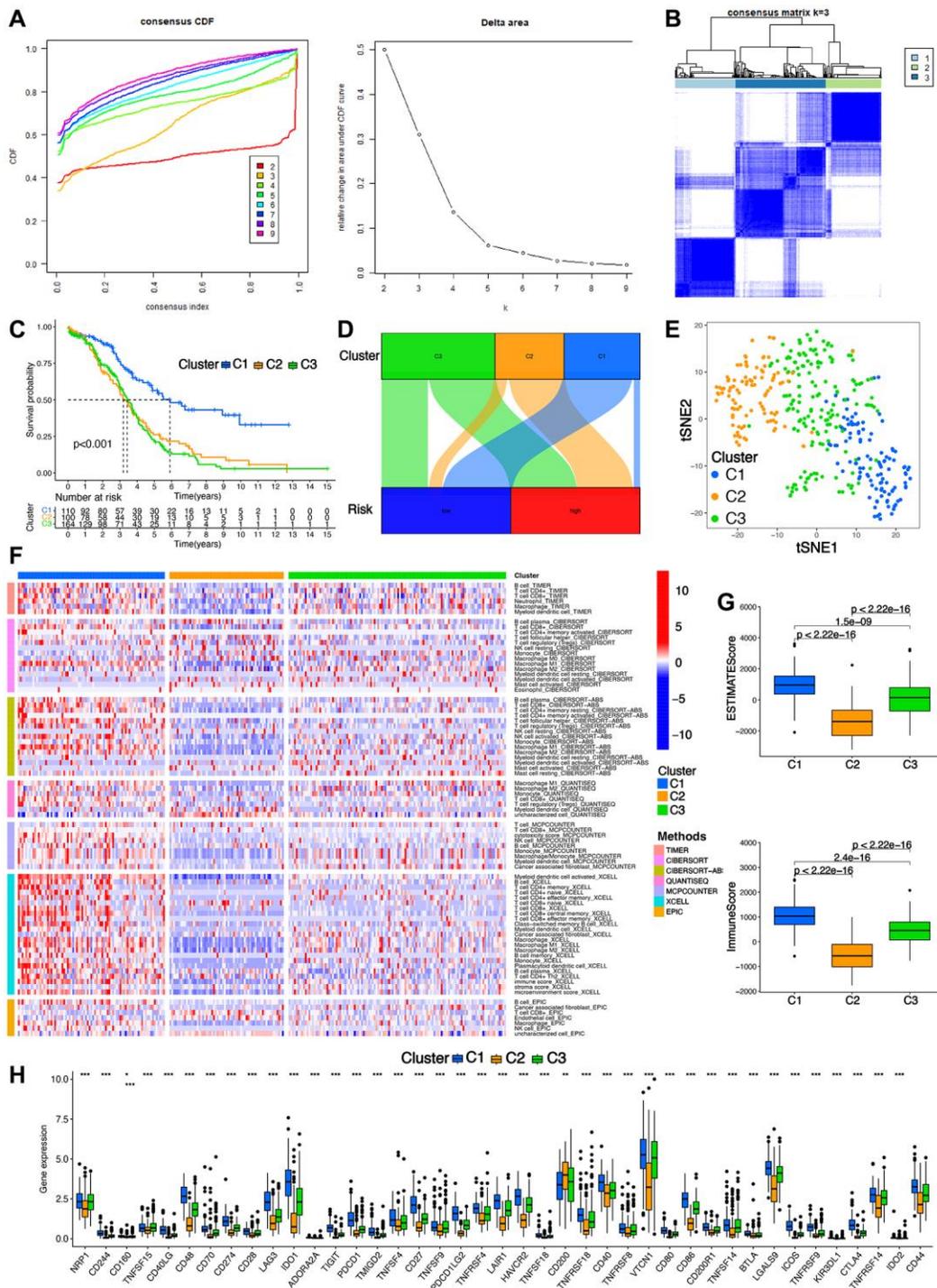
Supplementary Figure 1. Prognostic T cell-related signature (TRS) developed with integrative machine learning analysis. The risk score, survival status, and gene expression of TRS in TCGA (A), GSE14764 (B), GSE26193 (C), GSE26712 (D) and GSE140082 (E) cohort.



Supplementary Figure 2. Dissection of T cell-related signature (TRS)-based genetic mutation. (A, B) Genetic landscape in different risk score group of ovarian cancer. (C, D) The correlation between tumor mutational burden and risk score in ovarian cancer. (E, F) The overall survival curve in ovarian cancer patients with different tumor mutational burden and risk score.



Supplementary Figure 3. T cell-related signature (TRS)-based GSEA analysis. The KEGG pathways associated enriched items in high (A) and low (B) risk score group.



Supplementary Figure 4. Unsupervised clustering in different risk score group of ovarian cancer. (A, B) The consensus CDF, delta area and heatmap in unsupervised clustering analysis. (C) Survival curve of different clusters of ovarian cancer patients. (D) tSNE analysis demonstrated significant differences of gene profile of three clusters. (E) The correlation between risk score and cluster. The level of most of immune cells (F), tumor microenvironment score (G), and immune checkpoints (H) in different clusters of ovarian cancer patients.

Supplementary Tables

Please browse Full Text version to see the data of Supplementary Table 1.

Supplementary Table 1. Cell markers identified by single cell analysis.

Supplementary Table 2. Univariate cox analysis identified 26 potential prognostic T cell-related markers.

Id	HR	HR.95L	HR.95H	p-value
CD2	0.865360154	0.773310799	0.968366402	0.011730077
CD96	0.81848001	0.682359338	0.981754759	0.030898357
CD3D	0.855767714	0.761840568	0.961275117	0.00864525
CD3G	0.745756741	0.622389088	0.893577871	0.001475151
PYHIN1	0.790027811	0.624398349	0.999592558	0.049604496
IL2RG	0.880170893	0.789195015	0.981634178	0.021850169
CD3E	0.847826179	0.731858414	0.982169796	0.027828459
TMSB4X	0.830523565	0.700504437	0.984675264	0.03253733
EVL	0.773898077	0.609409003	0.982785338	0.035518711
CXCR4	0.84538217	0.739302911	0.966682266	0.014076995
CALM1	0.772908781	0.634598006	0.941364419	0.010448589
EGR1	1.123864428	1.004779747	1.257062811	0.041012343
TSC22D1	1.245954265	1.024908258	1.514674137	0.027322858
EMP1	1.352393712	1.138702904	1.606186079	0.000581297
IFI27	0.913242335	0.846203341	0.985592377	0.019646104
PFN1	0.728993077	0.55948889	0.949850686	0.019231486
TCEAL4	0.788075267	0.635526762	0.977240714	0.030029456
EPCAM	0.833101003	0.716145292	0.969157081	0.017987523
TIMP3	1.160659569	1.043456987	1.291026512	0.006084275
CFI	0.848911225	0.738890634	0.975313848	0.020727341
APBB2	1.246524579	1.007132053	1.542820052	0.042838551
SERPINB9	0.806424564	0.65568386	0.991820322	0.041574256
ISG20	0.755275505	0.644744872	0.88475475	0.000507656
IGFBP7	0.802360401	0.684443615	0.940592035	0.00662439
GBP2	0.863193103	0.753796435	0.988466247	0.033358176
NPAS3	0.853256562	0.736786745	0.988137702	0.034062684

Supplementary Table 3. Other models had been established for ovarian cancer.

Signature	Title	PMID
An	Development of a Novel Autophagy-related Prognostic Signature for Serous Ovarian Cancer	30410611
Any	The Comprehensive Analysis of Interferon-Related Prognostic Signature with regard to Immune Features in Ovarian Cancer.	35769811
Bi	Establishment of a novel glycolysis-related prognostic gene signature for ovarian cancer and its relationships with immune infiltration of the tumor microenvironment	34496868
Chaofan	Establishment and validation of an RNA binding protein-associated prognostic model for ovarian cancer	33550985
Chen	Integrating cell cycle score for precise risk stratification in ovarian cancer	36061171
Cheng	Construction and validation of a transcription factors-based prognostic signature for ovarian cancer.	35227285

Fan	A newly defined risk signature, consisting of three m6A RNA methylation regulators, predicts the prognosis of ovarian cancer	32950970
Fei	Construction autophagy-related prognostic risk signature to facilitate survival prediction, individual treatment and biomarker excavation of epithelial ovarian cancer patients.	33676525
Hu	Identification of a five-gene signature of the RGS gene family with prognostic value in ovarian cancer.	33845140
Huan	Integrated Analysis of Ferroptosis-Related Biomarker Signatures to Improve the Diagnosis and Prognosis Prediction of Ovarian Cancer	35071242
Huo	Identification of a Prognostic Signature for Ovarian Cancer Based on the Microenvironment Genes	34054929
Jin	A panel of three oxidative stress-related genes predicts overall survival in ovarian cancer patients received platinum-based chemotherapy	29910195
JinC	A 2-Protein Signature Predicting Clinical Outcome in High-Grade Serous Ovarian Cancer	28976449
Jinwei	Identification and verification of a ten-gene signature predicting overall survival for ovarian cancer	32805252
Khadirnaikar	Development and validation of an immune prognostic signature for ovarian carcinoma	32794637
Lei	Identification of an energy metabolism-related gene signature in ovarian cancer prognosis	32186777
Leilei	Establishment and validation of a novel invasion-related gene signature for predicting the prognosis of ovarian cancer.	35292033
Liang	A Novel Glycosyltransferase-Related Gene Signature for Overall Survival Prediction in Patients with Ovarian Cancer	34992448
Lin	A methylation-driven genes prognostic signature and the immune microenvironment in epithelial ovarian cancer.	35783253
Liu	Construction and validation of a novel aging-related gene signature and prognostic nomogram for predicting the overall survival in ovarian cancer.	34825509
Lixiao	Construction and Validation of a Novel Glycometabolism-Related Gene Signature Predicting Survival in Patients With Ovarian Cancer.	33281878
Nie	Prognostic signature of ovarian cancer based on 14 tumor microenvironment-related genes	34260536
Pan	A Potential Immune-Related Long Non-coding RNA Prognostic Signature for Ovarian Cancer	34367253
Pan	A Novel Six-Gene Signature for Prognosis Prediction in Ovarian Cancer	33193589
Qiu	A Liquid-Liquid Phase Separation-Related Gene Signature as Prognostic Biomarker for Epithelial Ovarian Cancer	34168991