



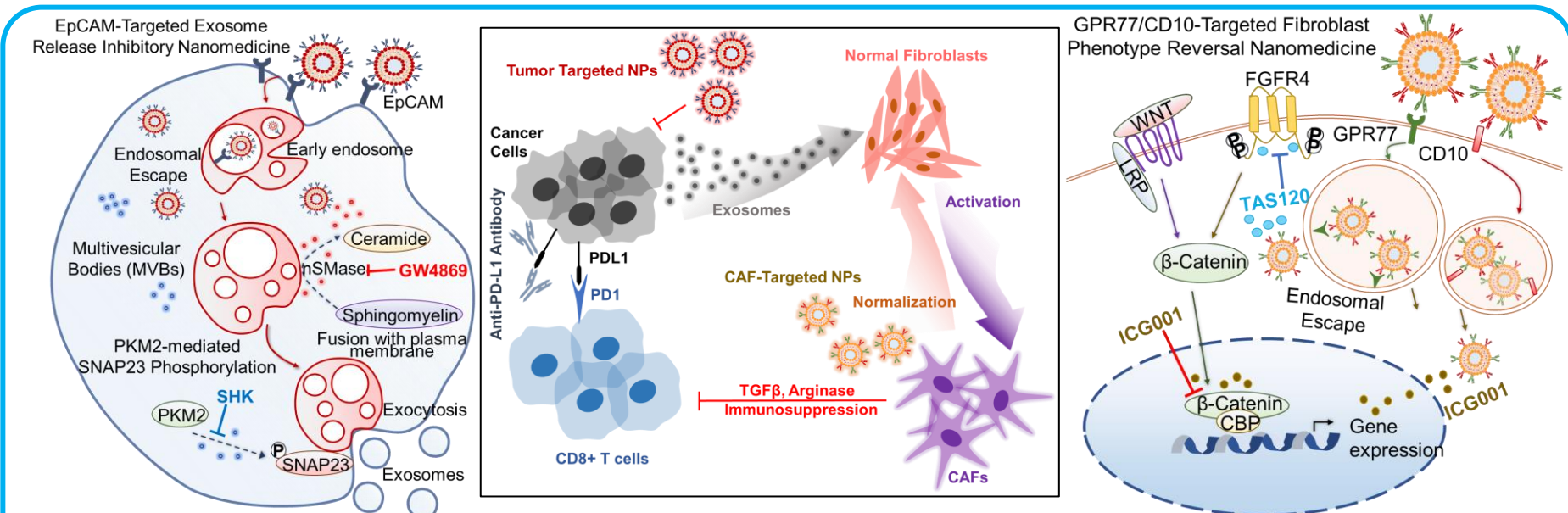
# Combined Exosome Release Inhibitory & Fibroblast Phenotype Reversal Nanomedicines Normalize CAFs & Potentiate Cancer Immunotherapy

Ahmed Elzoghby<sup>1\*</sup>, May Freag<sup>1†</sup>, Mostafa Mohammed<sup>1†</sup>, Krishna Maremanda<sup>1</sup>, Arpita Kulkarni<sup>1</sup>, Hae Lin Jang<sup>1</sup>, Shiladitya Sengupta<sup>1,2,3\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Division of Engineering in Medicine, Department of Medicine, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA. <sup>2</sup> Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, MA. <sup>3</sup> Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology, Cambridge, MA. † Equal contribution \* Correspondence: aelzoghby@bwh.harvard.edu, shiladit@mit.edu

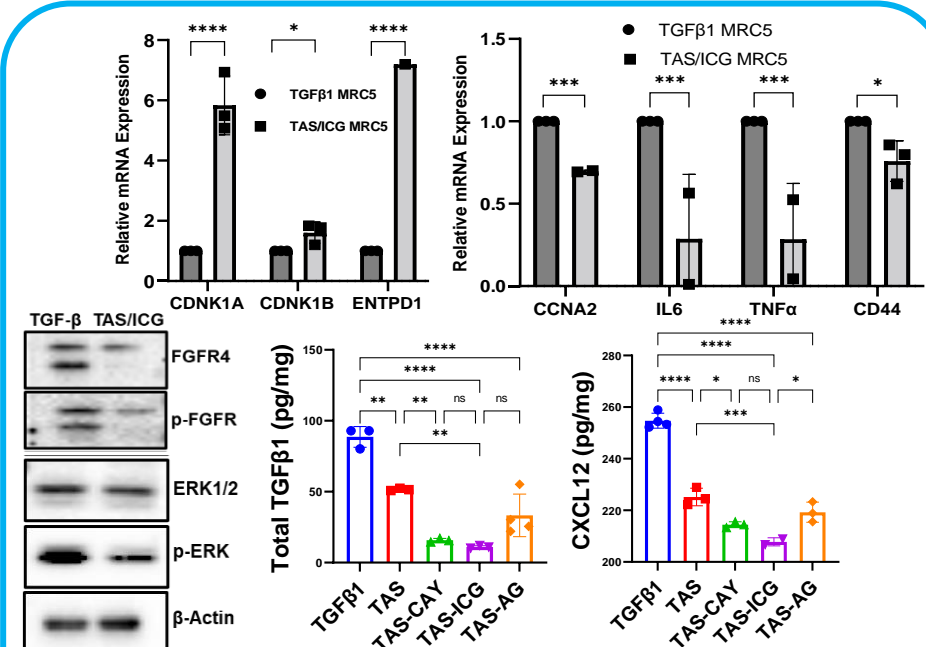


## Background & Methodology



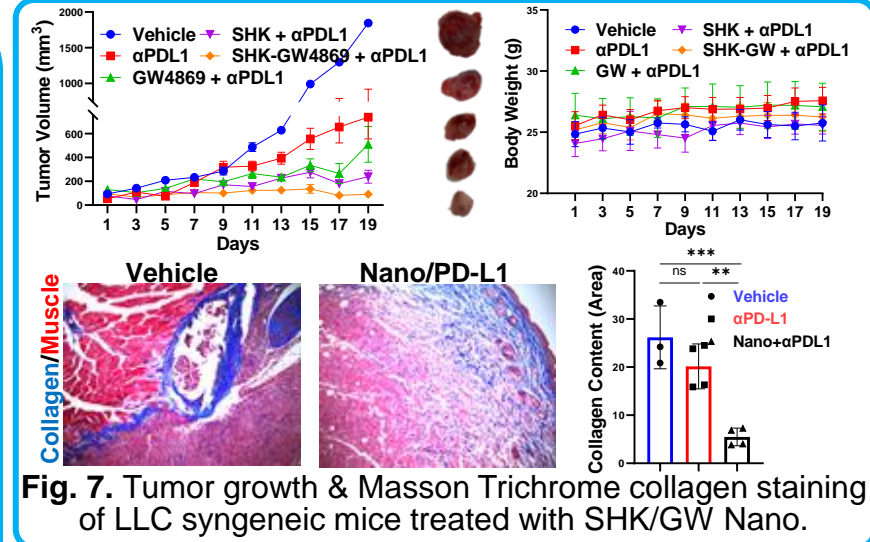
**Fig. 1.** Cancer cells secrete exosomes to induce differentiation of fibroblasts into immunosuppressive cancer associated fibroblasts (CAFs). Then, cancer cells maintain the CAFs phenotype via activating FGFR & Wnt/β-catenin signaling pathways. Therefore, normalization of CAFs is a major goal to enhance the efficacy of cancer immunotherapy.

## Results (In vitro Cell Study)



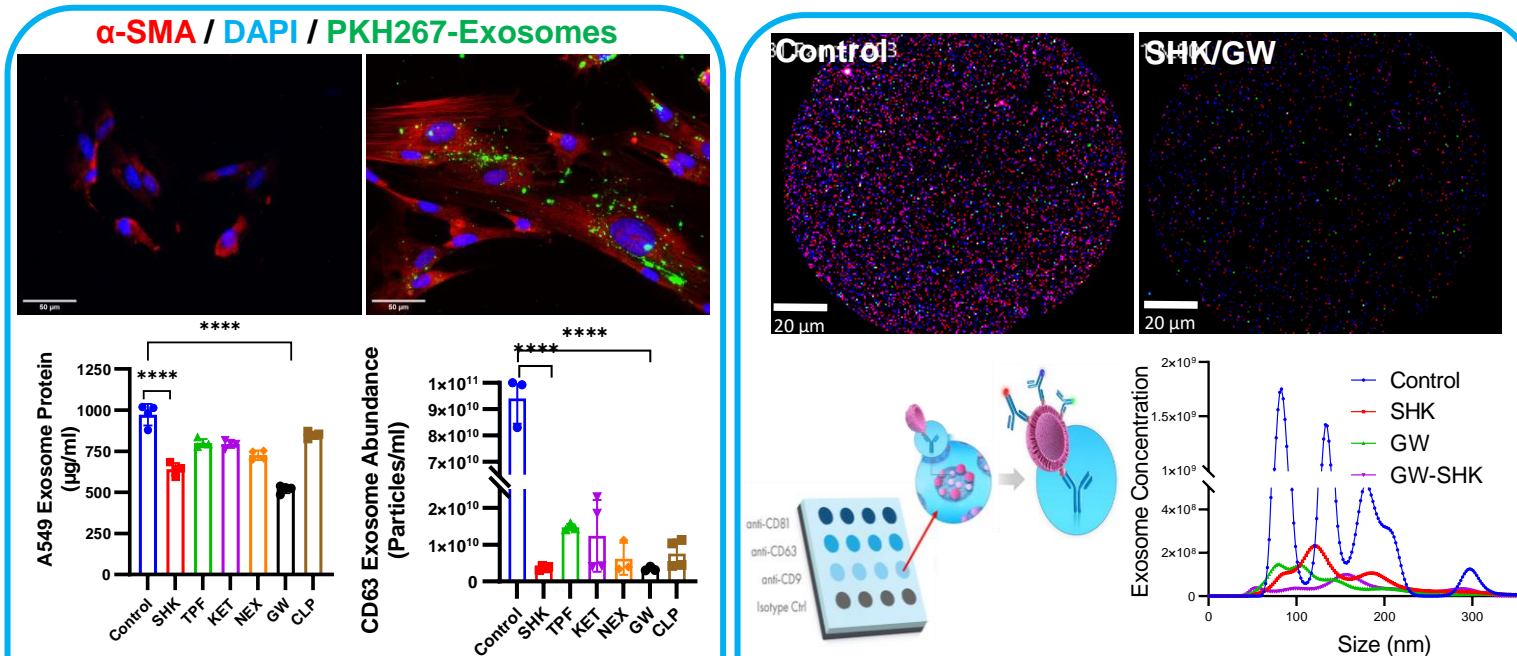
**Fig. 4.** Mechanistic analysis including qRT-PCR, Western Blot & ELISA of TAS/ICG Nano-treated MRC5 CAFs.

## Results (In vivo Study)

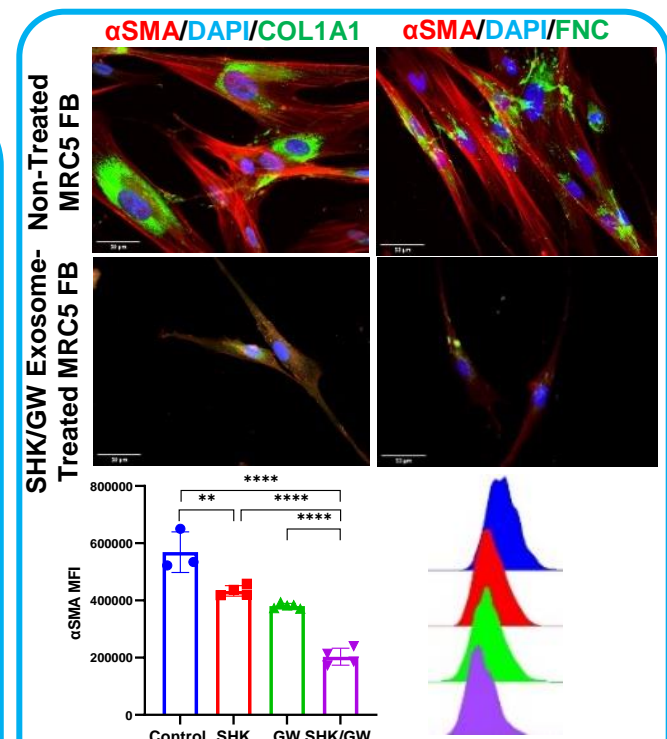


**Fig. 7.** Tumor growth & Masson Trichrome collagen staining of LLC syngeneic mice treated with SHK/GW Nano.

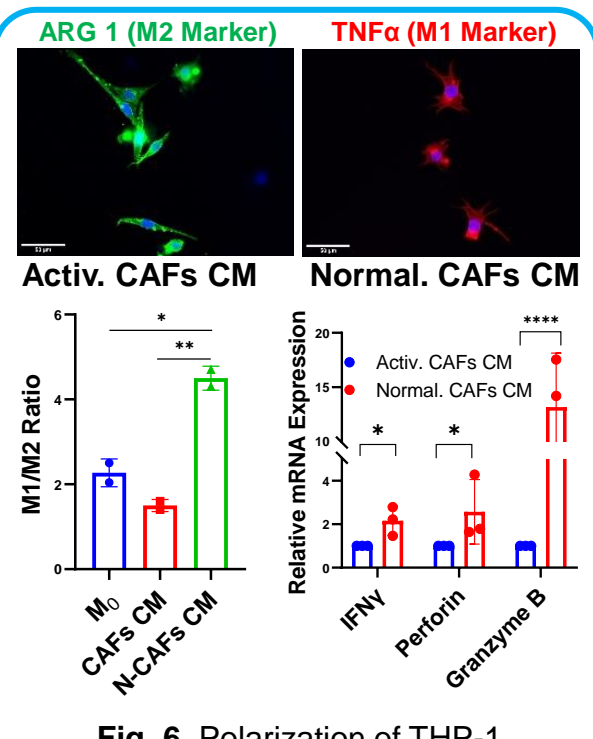
## Results (Exosome Characterization)



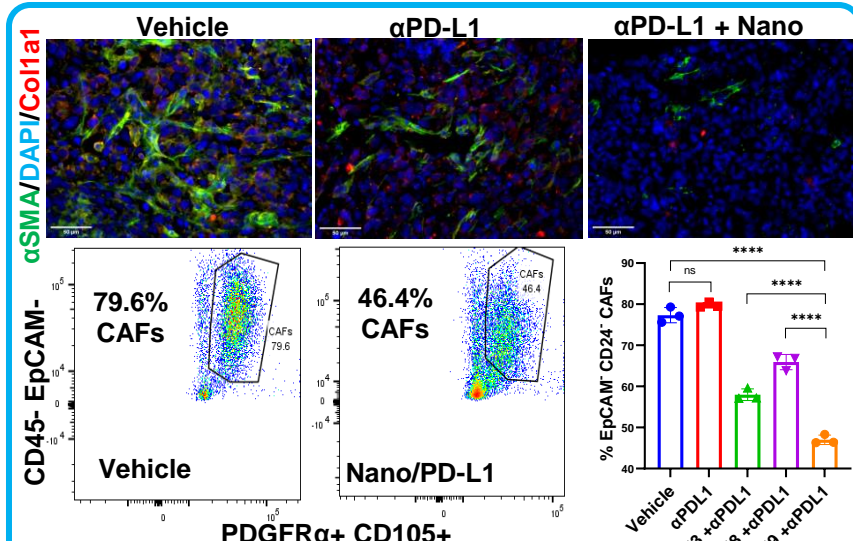
**Fig. 2.** Internalization & Quantitation of A549 exosomes into MRC5 fibroblasts (Bar:50 μm). **Fig. 3.** Interferometric imaging & Nanoparticle Tracking Analysis of A549 exosomes.



**Fig. 5.** Immunofluorescence imaging & flow cytometry of MRC5 fibroblasts



**Fig. 6.** Polarization of THP-1 macrophages & qRT-PCR of CD8+ T cells treated by active. vs normal. CAFs CM.



**Fig. 8.** Immunofluorescence imaging & flow cytometry of CAFs in treated tumor tissues (Scale bar: 50 μm).

## Conclusion

Simultaneous Inhibition of tumoral exosome-mediated activation of fibroblasts and blocking FGFR-Wnt/β-catenin signaling reversed the immunosuppressive CAFs phenotype to quiescent one which enhanced the antitumor efficacy of αPD-L1 antibody.