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Zhang et al: Regulatory cell signature in CRC

Machine learning integration of single-cell and

bulk transcriptomics identifies fibroblast-

driven prognostic markers in colorectal cancer

Ning Zhang^{1,2}, Ruiyan Liu^{1,2}, Siya Wu^{1,2}, Chenxi Feng¹, Boxiang Wang^{1,2}, Qiaoqiao Zheng^{1,2}, Linru Jie^{1,2}, Ruihua Kang¹, Xiaoli Guo¹, Xiaoyang Wang^{1*}, Shaokai Zhang^{1*}, and Jiangong Zhang^{1*}

¹Department of Cancer Epidemiology, The Affiliated Cancer Hospital of Zhengzhou University & Henan Cancer Hospital, Zhengzhou, China

²College of Public Health, Zhengzhou University, Zhengzhou, China

*Correspondence to Xiaoyang Wang: <u>xywang233@126.com</u>; Shaokai Zhang: <u>shaokaizhang@126.com</u> and Jiangong Zhang: <u>zhangjg@zzu.edu.cn</u>

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Figure S1. Single-cell sequencing data clustering process in 204 tumor center tissues.

(A) Cell distribution under different dimensions. Dims, which stands for dimensions, represents principal components. (B) The clustering tree generated using various resolution parameters for different cells has an optimal resolution of 0.2. In proportion indicates the proportion of cells within each cluster, RNA_snn_res refers to the RNA shared nearest neighbor resolution parameter used in Seurat clustering. (C) UMAP clustering plot at optimal resolution.



Figure S2. Supplementary information on the intercellular communication network in the CRC TME in tumor center tissues.

(A) Dot plot depicting cell-type specific communication patterns. Dot size indicates the count of interaction links, X and Y axes show outgoing and incoming communication probabilities, respectively. (B) Intuitive reflection of CellChat networks.



Figure S3. Validation of FRS in TCGA cohort.

(A) Univariate ROC curves and (B) DCA curves comparing FRS with clinical parameters.

(C) Distribution of clinical characteristics and model gene expression across FRS risk groups.

 (\mathbf{D}) Nomogram integrating FRS with clinical parameters. (\mathbf{E}, \mathbf{F}) Clinical utility assessment of

the nomogram compared to individual clinical characteristics.



Figure S4. Seven FRS genes expression distribution in this study and other 9 CRC scRNA-seq datasets.

(A) The violin plot illustrates the expression distribution of 7 FRS genes in the single-cell transcriptomes of this study. (B-H) Expression of 7 FRS genes across various cell types from other 9 CRC scRNA-seq datasets from TISCH. (I) Correlation analysis of 7 genes in TCGA bulk RNA transcriptome (Corr refers to the correlation coefficient of expression levels between different genes, and it also indicates the correlation levels in different FRS subgroups, *: p<0.05, **: p<0.01, ***: p<0.001).



Figure S5. Single gene prognostic analysis of FRS in TCGA dataset.

(A)The forest plot shows the univariate cox regression results of 7 genes of FRS. (B) The heatmap based on risk scores displays the variation levels of gene expression in relation to

FRS risk scores and survival status. Risk Score refers to the FRS risk score. (C) KM curves of 7 genes of FRS.



Figure S6. Supplementary explanation of immune infiltration characteristics based on TCGA bulk RNA transcriptomes.

(A) The relative percentage distribution of various immune cell types in each sample. (B) Survival analysis of 6 immune cell types with prognostic effects.