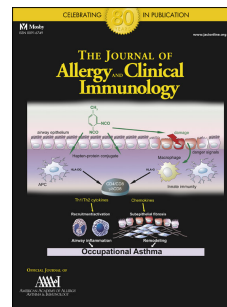


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Clinical and immunological phenotype associated with activated PI3-kinase delta syndrome 2 (APDS2 / PASLI-R1) - A cohort study

Elodie Elkaim, MD, Benedicte Neven, MD, PhD, Julie Bruneau, MD, PhD, Kanako Mitsui-Sekinaka, MD, Aurelie Stanislas, Msc, Lucie Heurtier, Msc, Carrie L. Lucas, PhD, Helen Matthews, Bsc, Marie-Céline Deau, Msc, Svetlana Sharapova, PhD, James Curtis, BSc, Janine Reichenbach, MD, Catherine Glastre, MD, David A. Parry, PhD, Gururaj Arumugakani, FRCPath, PhD, Elizabeth McDermott, MD, Sara Sebnem Kilic, MD, Motoi Yamashita, MD, Despina Moshous, MD, PhD, Hicham Lamrini, Msc, Burkhard Otremba, MD, Andrew Gennery, MD, Tanya Coulter, MRCPI, Isabella Quinti, MD, Jean-Louis Stephan, MD, Vassilios Lougaris, MD, Brodzski Nicholas, MD, Barlogis Vincent, MD, Takaki Asano, MD, Galicier Lionel, MD, Boutboul David, MD, PhD, Shigeaki Nonoyama, MD, PhD, Andrew Cant, MD, PhD, Kohsuke Imai, MD, Capucine Picard, MD, PhD, Sergey Nejentsev, PhD, Thierry Jo Molina, MD, PhD, Michael Lenardo, MD, Sinisa Savic, FRCPath, PhD, Marina Cavazzana, MD, PhD, Alain Fischer, MD, PhD, Anne Durandy, MD, PhD, Sven Kracker, PhD

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1 **Clinical and immunological phenotype associated with activated PI3-kinase delta**  
2 **syndrome 2 (APDS2 / PASLI-R1) - A cohort study**

3 Elodie Elkaim, MD<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Benedicte Neven, MD, PhD<sup>a,b,c,\*</sup>, Julie Bruneau, MD, PhD<sup>c,d</sup>,  
4 Kanako Mitsui-Sekinaka, MD<sup>e</sup>, Aurelie Stanislas, Msc<sup>f</sup>, Lucie Heurtier, Msc<sup>b,c</sup>, Carrie L.  
5 Lucas, PhD<sup>g</sup>, Helen Matthews, Bsc<sup>g</sup>, Marie-Céline Deau, Msc<sup>b,c</sup>, Svetlana Sharapova, PhD<sup>h</sup>,  
6 James Curtis, BSc<sup>i</sup>, Janine Reichenbach, MD<sup>j</sup>, Catherine Glastre, MD<sup>k</sup>, David A Parry, PhD<sup>l</sup>,  
7 Gururaj Arumugakani, FRCPath, PhD<sup>m</sup>, Elizabeth McDermott, MD<sup>n</sup>, Sara Sebnem Kilic,  
8 MD<sup>o</sup>, Motoi Yamashita, MD<sup>p</sup>, Despina Moshous, MD, PhD<sup>a,b,c</sup>, Hicham Lamrini, Msc<sup>b,c</sup>,  
9 Burkhard Otremba, MD<sup>q</sup>, Andrew Gennery, MD<sup>r</sup>, Tanya Coulter, MRCPI<sup>s,t</sup>, Isabella Quinti,  
10 MD<sup>u</sup>, Jean-Louis Stephan, MD<sup>v</sup>, Vassilios Lougaris, MD<sup>w</sup>, Brodzski Nicholas, MD<sup>x</sup>, Barlogis  
11 Vincent, MD<sup>y</sup>, Takaki Asano, MD<sup>z</sup>, Galicier Lionel, MD<sup>aa</sup>, Boutboul David, MD, PhD<sup>aa</sup>,  
12 Shigeaki Nonoyama, MD, PhD<sup>e</sup>, Andrew Cant, MD, PhD<sup>r</sup>, Kohsuke Imai, MD<sup>e,bb</sup>, Capucine  
13 Picard, MD, PhD<sup>b,c,cc</sup> Sergey Nejentsev, PhD<sup>i</sup>, Thierry Jo Molina MD, PhD<sup>c,d</sup>, Michael  
14 Lenardo, MD<sup>g</sup>, Sinisa Savic, FRCPath, PhD<sup>l,dd</sup>, Marina Cavazzana, MD, PhD<sup>b,c,f,\*\*</sup>, Alain  
15 Fischer, MD, PhD<sup>a,b,c,ee,\*\*</sup>, Anne Durandy, MD, PhD<sup>b,c,\*\*</sup> and Sven Kracker, PhD<sup>b,c</sup>

16

17

18 <sup>a</sup> Department of Pediatric Immunology, Hematology and Rheumatology, AP-HP, Necker  
19 Children's Hospital, F-75015 Paris, France.

20 <sup>b</sup> INSERM UMR1163, Paris, France.

21 <sup>c</sup> Université Paris Descartes - Sorbonne Paris Cité, Institut Imagine, Paris, France.

22 <sup>d</sup> Department of Pathology, Hôpital Necker-Enfants Malades, Assistance Publique des  
23 Hôpitaux de Paris, France.

- 24 <sup>e</sup> Department of Pediatrics, National Defense Medical College, Saitama, Japan
- 25 <sup>f</sup> Département de Biothérapie, Centre d'Investigation Clinique intégré en Biothérapies, Necker  
26 Children's Hospital, Assistance Publique-Hôpitaux de Paris (AP-HP), Paris, France.
- 27 <sup>g</sup> Laboratory of Immunology, Molecular Development of the Immune System Section,  
28 NIAID Clinical Genomics Program, NIAID, NIH, Bethesda, MD, USA.
- 29 <sup>h</sup> Belarusian Research Center for Pediatric Oncology, Hematology and Immunology, Minsk,  
30 Belarus.
- 31 <sup>i</sup> Department of Medicine, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK.
- 32 <sup>j</sup> Division of Immunology, University Children's Hospital Zurich, Children's Research  
33 Center, Competence Center for Applied Biotechnology and Molecular Medicine and Swiss  
34 Center for Regenerative Medicine, University Zurich, Switzerland.
- 35 <sup>k</sup> Service de Pédiatrie, Centre Hospitalier Annecy Genevois, METZ TESSY, France.
- 36 <sup>l</sup> Centre for Genomic & Experimental Medicine, Institute of Genetics & Molecular Medicine,  
37 University of Edinburgh, Western General Hospital, Crewe Road South, Edinburgh, UK.
- 38 <sup>m</sup> Department of Clinical Immunology and Allergy, St James's University Hospital, Leeds,  
39 UK.
- 40 <sup>n</sup> Nottingham University Hospitals, Nottingham, UK.
- 41 <sup>o</sup> Pediatric Immunology Division, Uludag University Medical Faculty, Department of  
42 Pediatrics, Gorukle- Bursa 16059, Turkey.
- 43 <sup>p</sup> Department of Pediatrics and Developmental Biology, School of Medicine, Tokyo Medical  
44 and Dental University, Tokyo, Japan
- 45 <sup>q</sup> Oncological Practice Oldenburg/Delmenhorst, Gruene Straße 11, 26121 Oldenburg,  
46 Germany
- 47 <sup>r</sup> Institute of Cellular Medicine □ Paediatric Immunology Dept □ c/o Ward 3 □ Great North

48 Children's Hospital □ Queen Victoria Road □ Newcastle upon Tyne.

49 <sup>s</sup> Department of Immunology, School of Medicine, Trinity College Dublin, St James's  
50 Hospital, Dublin, Ireland.

51 <sup>t</sup> Department of Pediatric Immunology and Infectious Diseases, Our Lady's Children's  
52 Hospital Crumlin, Dublin, Ireland.

53 <sup>u</sup> Sapienza University of Rome, Department of Molecular Medicine, Rome, Italy.

54 <sup>v</sup> Department of Pediatric, Hôpital Nord, Saint-Etienne, France.

55 <sup>w</sup> Pediatrics Clinic and Institute for Molecular Medicine A. Nocivelli, Department of Clinical  
56 and Experimental Sciences, University of Brescia, Spedali Civili di Brescia, Italy.

57 <sup>x</sup> Childrens Hospital, Skåne University Hospital, Lund, Sweden.

58 <sup>y</sup> Service d'Hématologie Pédiatrique, Marseille, France.

59 <sup>z</sup> Department of Pediatrics, Hiroshima University Graduate School of Biomedical & Health  
60 Sciences, Hiroshima, Japan

61 <sup>aa</sup> Clinical Immunology Department, Hôpital Saint Louis, Assistance Publique Hôpitaux de  
62 Paris, Université Paris Diderot, 1 avenue Claude Vellefaux, Paris, France.

63 <sup>bb</sup> Department of Pediatrics, Tokyo Medical and Dental University, Tokyo, Japan

64 <sup>cc</sup> Study Center for Primary Immunodeficiencies, Assistance Publique Hôpitaux de Paris,  
65 Necker Hospital, Paris, France.

66 <sup>dd</sup> National Institute for Health Research–Leeds Musculoskeletal Biomedical Research Unit  
67 (NIHR-LMBRU) and Leeds Institute of Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal Medicine (LIRMM),  
68 Wellcome Trust Brenner Building, St James's University Hospital, Beckett Street, Leeds,  
69 UK

70 <sup>ee</sup> Collège de France, Paris, France.

71

72 \* Authorship note: Elodie Elkaim and Benedicte Neven contributed equally to this work.

73 \*\* Authorship note: Marina Cavazzana, Alain Fischer and Anne Durandy contributed equally  
74 to this work.

75

76 **Correspondence:** Sven Kracker, INSERM U1163, Imagine Institute, 24 Boulevard du  
77 Montparnasse, F-75015 Paris, France

78 e-mail: sven.kracker@inserm.fr; tel.: +33 142 754 336

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112

113

114 **Abstract:**

115 **Background:** Activated PI3-kinase delta syndrome 2 (APDS2/PASLI-R1), a recently  
116 described primary immunodeficiency, results from autosomal dominant mutations in *PIK3RI*,  
117 the gene encoding the regulatory subunit (p85 $\alpha$ , p55 $\alpha$  and p50 $\alpha$ ) of class IA PI3-kinases.

118 **Objectives:** Review the clinical, immunological and histopathological phenotypes of APDS2  
119 in a genetically defined international patient cohort.

120 **Methods:** The medical and biological records of 36 genetically diagnosed APDS2 patients  
121 were collected and reviewed.

122 **Results:** Mutations within splice acceptor and donor sites of exon 11 of the *PIK3RI* gene lead  
123 to APDS2. Recurrent upper respiratory tract infections (100%), pneumonitis (71%) and  
124 chronic lymphoproliferation (89%) (including adenopathy (75%), splenomegaly (43%) and  
125 upper respiratory tract lymphoid hyperplasia (48%)) were the most common features. Growth  
126 retardation was frequently noticed (45%). Other complications were mild neurodevelopmental  
127 delay (31%), malignant diseases (28%), most of them being B cell lymphomas, autoimmunity  
128 (17%), bronchiectasis (18%) and chronic diarrhea (24%). Decreased serum IgA and IgG  
129 (87%), increased IgM levels (58%), B cell lymphopenia (88%) associated with an increased  
130 frequency of transitional B cells (93%), decreased number of naive CD4 and naive CD8 but  
131 increased number of CD8 effector/memory T cells were predominant immunological features.  
132 The majority of patients (89%) received Ig replacement; three patients were treated with  
133 rituximab and six patients with rapamycin initiated after diagnosis of APDS2. Five patients  
134 died from APDS2-related complications.

135 **Conclusion:** APDS2 is a combined immunodeficiency with variable clinical phenotype.  
136 Complications are frequent, such as severe bacterial and viral infections, lymphoproliferation  
137 and lymphoma similar to APDS1/PASLI-CD. Ig replacement therapy, rapamycin and likely  
138 in the near future selective PI3K $\delta$ - inhibitors are possible treatment options.

139



140 **Clinical Implications:** APDS2/PASLI-R1 should be screened in sporadic or autosomal-  
141 dominant primary immunodeficiencies associated with lymphadenopathies, growth  
142 retardation, high IgM (HIGM-like syndrome), and B cell lymphopenia with an increased  
143 percentage of transitional B cells and decreased naïve T cells.

144

145 **Capsule summary:** Comparison of clinical and biological records of 36 genetically  
146 diagnosed APDS2/PASLI-R1 patients highlights the severity of the disease and its variable  
147 phenotype spectrum.

148

149 **Key words:**

150 PID

151 PI3K

152 p85 alpha

153 p110 delta

154 APDS

155 PASLI

156 HIGM

157 adenopathy

158 immunodeficiency

159 antibody deficiency

160

161 **Abbreviations:**

162 APDS: Activated PI3-kinase  $\delta$  syndrome

163 PASLI: p110 $\delta$ -activating mutations causing Senescent T cells, Lymphadenopathy, and

164 Immunodeficiency

- 165 PID: primary immunodeficiency
- 166 DLBCL: diffuse large B cell lymphoma
- 167 HL: Hodgkin lymphoma
- 168 CLL: Chronic lymphocytic leukaemia
- 169 HLA: Human Leukocyte Antigen
- 170

171 **Introduction:**

172 Activated PI3-kinase  $\delta$  syndrome 2 (APDS2) also named p110 $\delta$ -activating mutations causing  
173 Senescent T cells, Lymphadenopathy, and Immunodeficiency (PASLI-R1) [MIM# 616005] is  
174 a primary immunodeficiency (PID) resulting from autosomal dominant mutations in *PIK3RI*,  
175 the gene encoding the regulatory subunit (p85 $\alpha$ , p55 $\alpha$  and p50 $\alpha$ ) of class IA PI3-kinases (1,  
176 2). Class IA PI3K molecules are composed of a p110 catalytic subunit (p110 $\alpha$ , p110 $\beta$ , or  
177 p110 $\delta$ ) and a regulatory subunit (p85 $\alpha$ , p55 $\alpha$ , p50 $\alpha$ , p85 $\beta$ , or p55 $\gamma$ ) that regulates the stability,  
178 cellular localization, and function of p110. The function of class IA PI3Ks is to convert  
179 phosphatidylinositol 4,5-bisphosphate into phosphatidylinositol 3,4,5-trisphosphate (PIP3), an  
180 important phospholipid secondary messenger. Each of the catalytic subunits can bind to any  
181 of the regulatory subunits (3). Expression of the p110 $\delta$  catalytic subunit is restricted mainly to  
182 leukocytes, whereas p110 $\alpha$  and p110 $\beta$  are ubiquitously expressed. The widely expressed p85 $\alpha$   
183 regulatory subunit is the predominant regulatory subunit in lymphocytes. Mutations in a  
184 splice donor site of *PIK3RI* have been shown to cause APDS2 as a result of skipping of exon  
185 11 (coding exon 10), encoding the amino acids 434-475 of p85 $\alpha$ . The splicing from exon 10  
186 to exon 12 is in-frame and therefore results in a shortened p85 $\alpha$  protein; the p55 $\alpha$  and p50 $\alpha$   
187 isoforms are similarly affected. The shortened p85 $\alpha$  protein is dominantly responsible for  
188 hyper-activated PI3K $\delta$  -signaling in T and B lymphocytes (1, 2).

189 The main clinical and biological findings in the 13 published APDS2 patients reported so far  
190 were recurrent respiratory tract infections, lymphoproliferation and antibody deficiency (1, 2,  
191 4, 5). APDS2 resembles APDS1 also named PASLI-CD [MIM# 615513], a PID caused by  
192 autosomal-dominant, gain-of-function mutations in *PIK3CD*, the gene encoding the catalytic  
193 subunit p110 $\delta$ , leading to hyper-activated PI3K $\delta$  signaling in lymphocytes (6-8).

194 In this study we reviewed the clinical, immunological and histopathological features of  
195 APDS2 in a genetically defined international cohort of 36 patients.

196

**197 Patients and Methods:**

198 Genomic DNA from patients presenting with genetically undefined primary antibody  
199 deficiency were screened for mutations at the splice sites of exon 11 (coding exon 10) of the  
200 *PIK3R1* gene by whole exome sequencing or targeted Sanger sequencing. Medical and  
201 biological records of 36 genetically diagnosed APDS2 patients were retrospectively collected  
202 and compared using a questionnaire. Patients treated for lymphoma and/or rituximab were  
203 excluded from the immunological analysis. The study was performed in accordance with the  
204 precepts of the Declaration of Helsinki and local ethical requirements.

205

**206 Results:****207 Patient characteristics**

208 In this retrospective analysis, 36 APDS2 patients (15 males) from 31 unrelated families were  
209 included, of whom 8 patients were reported previously (1, 2). Five patients died at the age of  
210 12 (P10), 27 (P5 and P28), 30 (P11) and 36 (P20a) years, respectively (Figure 1). Alive  
211 patients had a median age of 18 years, (range from 3 to 56 years) at the time of the medical  
212 report.

213

**214 Genetics of heterozygous splice site mutations in *PIK3R1***

215 The previously described G to A, G to C and G to T nucleotide substitutions at the +1 position  
216 of the donor splice site of *PIK3R1* were identified in 42%, 29% and 13% of the patients,  
217 respectively (Figure 2). In four patients (13%) novel mutations affecting the +2 position of  
218 this donor splice site were identified, a T to A mutation; a T to G substitution, and a TG  
219 deletion. In addition, a novel mutation, a G to C nucleotide substitution, at the -1 position of  
220 the splice acceptor site of exon 11 of the *PIK3R1* gene was identified (Figure 2). Exon

221 skipping of the exon 11 encoding the amino acids 434-475 of p85 $\alpha$  was demonstrated by  
222 mRNA analysis for all novel mutations (Supplemental Figure 1).  
223 Ten patients were familial cases (5 families), but the large majority of patients were sporadic  
224 cases. Analysis of DNA from parents was only available for 8 patients from sporadic cases  
225 and revealed *de novo* mutations.

226

## 227 **Clinical presentation:**

### 228 **Infectious complications**

229 Clinical manifestations of the 36 patients are shown in Figure 3. All presented with early  
230 onset recurrent ear, nose and throat (ENT) or broncho-pulmonary infections (median onset 1.7  
231 years of age, range from the first month of life to 10 years of age). Upper respiratory tract  
232 infections (otitis media, sinusitis) as well as lower respiratory tract infections (bronchitis and  
233 pneumonitis) were present in 100% and 77% of patients, respectively. Mild bronchial wall  
234 thickening on chest CT scan and bronchiectasis were noticed in 2 (6%) and 6 patients (18%),  
235 respectively, and bronchiectasis was diagnosed with a median age of 13 years (range 4 to 33  
236 years). The most common bacterial respiratory organisms identified were *Haemophilus*  
237 *influenzae* and *Streptococcus pneumoniae*. Chronic conjunctivitis reported in 7 patients  
238 progressed in 1 patient to *Staphylococcus aureus*-related periorbital cellulitis (P5b), and in 2  
239 patients to chronic blepharitis (P16 and P27a). Invasive bacterial infections were rare, being  
240 only reported in two cases, one patient who presented with *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*  
241 septicemia (P20a), and a 12-year-old boy (P10) who developed peritonitis related to  
242 infectious perforation of the small intestine leading to septic shock and death. This boy had  
243 chronic gastroenteritis associated with *Campylobacter jejuni*, *Salmonella typhimurium* and  
244 *Clostridium difficile* infections. Chronic cutaneo-mucosal candidiasis was observed in 3  
245 patients (P5, P25 and P28). Out of 17 patients who received Bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG)

246 vaccination, two (P21 and P26) presented with persistent local skin lesions at the vaccination  
247 site. Persistent detection of virus was reported in 36% patients with Cytomegalovirus (CMV)  
248 and Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) as the most common. Disseminated lymphadenitis associated  
249 with CMV infection was reported in 2 patients, and asymptomatic chronic CMV viremia was  
250 detected in 6 patients (17%). Chronic EBV viremia was detected in 8 patients (22%); reported  
251 in 4 patients in combination with EBV-associated lymphoproliferative disease and in 4  
252 patients as asymptomatic chronic EBV viremia. Severe varicella zoster virus (VZV)  
253 infections requiring hospitalization occurred in 2 patients (P21 and P26). One patient  
254 developed hydrocephalus following measles meningitis (P22). Two patients presented with  
255 localized molluscum contagiosum (P17 and P27a) and 1 patient with warts (P22) indicating  
256 pox virus and papilloma virus infections, respectively. Chronic viral hepatitis was reported in  
257 three patients, related to either hepatitis B (P11, P20a) or C (P5) virus infection. Except  
258 chronic *Giardia intestinalis* in one patient (P5), and ocular toxoplasmosis in another (P20a)  
259 no other parasitic infections were reported in our patient cohort.

260

### 261 **Lymphoproliferation**

262 Thirty-two of 36 patients (89%) showed persistent (>6 months) benign lymphoproliferation  
263 either as chronic lymphadenopathy, splenomegaly, ENT or gut infiltration (Figure 3).  
264 Lymphadenopathy and splenomegaly typically began in childhood. Lymphadenopathies  
265 mentioned in 75% of the patients were variable in size, from mild (1-3cm) in 18 of 36 of  
266 patients (50%) to large in 9 patients (25%) (3-5cm, n=7; >5 cm, n=2). 15 patients (43%)  
267 developed splenomegaly of variable size (Figure 3). Hepatomegaly developed in 8 patients  
268 (22%). Nodular lymphoid infiltration of the gut was reported in 8 patients (24%) and was  
269 associated with chronic diarrhea and/or malabsorption. Severity of ENT infiltration was  
270 variable, ranging from ENT chronic lymphoid hyperplasia without the need for surgical

271 interventions in 3 patients (11%), to adenoidectomies and/or tonsillectomy in 7 patients (26%)  
272 and to multiple surgical resections in 3 patients. One 6-year-old patient required multiple  
273 surgical interventions, including maxillary anrostomies, multiple adenoidectomies,  
274 tonsillectomies and reductions of basilingual tonsils. The patient subsequently developed  
275 postoperative pharyngeal stenosis, requiring 3 endoscopic dilations, which were inefficient  
276 leading to tracheotomy.

277 Tonsil biopsies from P1 and P2 were available. As shown in Figure 4 and Supplemental  
278 Figure 2 (both presented identical abnormalities as compared to age-matched controls):  
279 prominent T cell hyperplasia and small B cell follicles were noticed. Germinal centers were  
280 small and ill-defined, with very few IgD-positive mantle cells. Large B cells in the  
281 interfollicular area were numerous and IgM-positive cells that are usually localized in  
282 germinal centres were scattered within the T cell zone. In addition, an important hyperplasia  
283 of PD1-positive T cells was present both in germinal centre and in extrafollicular areas. The  
284 frequency of scattered EBV- and/or CMV-positive cells present in the patients' biopsies were  
285 comparable to those observed in control biopsies and not consistent with EBV- and/or CMV-  
286 driven pathologies.

287

## 288 **Lymphoma**

289 Ten patients (28%) developed malignant diseases (Table 1 and Figure 1B) at a median age of  
290 onset of 23 years (6 to 40 years). The cumulative risk of developing lymphoid malignancy at  
291 the age of 40 years was calculated to be 78% (Figure 1B). Classical Hodgkin Lymphoma  
292 (CHL) was diagnosed in 5 patients (14%). Diffuse large B cell lymphoma (DLBCL) was  
293 diagnosed in 4 patients (11%) and marginal zone B cell lymphoma in 2 patients (6%). Three  
294 patients developed multiple lymphomas. One patient (P12) firstly developed at the age of 14  
295 years a nodular sclerosis CHL, treated by chemotherapy and at the age of 27 years a DLBCL,

296 treated by intensive chemotherapy and autologous hematopoietic stem cell transplantation  
297 (HSCT). Another patient (P20a) had 2 EBV-positive nodular sclerosis CHL at 14 and 35  
298 years of age and a marginal zone B cell lymphoma at 19 years of age. Her brother (P20b)  
299 presented also with CHL when he was 8 years old. Overall, 4 patients died of lymphoma at  
300 the ages of 27 (P5 and P28; DLBCL), 30 (P11; CHL) and 36 (P20a; CHL) years, respectively.  
301 Chronic lymphocytic leukaemia (CLL) developed in one patient (P27a) at 40 years of age. No  
302 other malignancy has been reported, except a papillary neoplasm in both breasts in a female  
303 patient.

304

### 305 **Autoimmunity and immune dysregulation**

306 Six patients (17%) developed autoimmune complications. Two patients had  
307 thrombocytopenic purpura during childhood. One patient developed autoimmune hemolytic  
308 anemia post chemotherapy for lymphoma and one patient developed Evans syndrome  
309 associated with CLL. An insulin-dependent diabetes was diagnosed in one patient. Two  
310 suffered from chronic arthritis, and one patient developed autoimmune hepatitis. In addition,  
311 three patients presented with chronic eczema.

312

### 313 **Immunological features:**

314 The patients' main immunological characteristics are summarized in Figure 5A-H  
315 (Immunological data for individual patients are provided in Online Repository tables E1-4).  
316 The majority of patients presented with decreased serum IgG and IgA levels before onset of  
317 Ig replacement therapy (87%). Increased IgM levels were observed in most patients (58%) but  
318 not all since 26% presented with a normal level and 16% with a decreased level, before any  
319 treatment. IgM levels decreased in 5 patients and increased in 2 patients over 2-12 years after  
320 onset of Ig replacement therapy. One patient (P3a) had increased IgG and IgM but decreased



321 IgA levels; one (P28) had low IgA but normal IgG and IgM levels and one (P4a) had  
322 increased IgA, decreased IgG and normal IgM levels.

323 The majority of patients (88%) presented with B cell lymphopenia worsening within 1 to 19  
324 years (Figure 5D and Supplemental Figure 3). Transitional B cells were increased in  
325 frequency in 14 out of 15 patients (93%) who had a suitable number of CD19-positive cells  
326 for analysis. Total CD3 T cell counts were normal in 74% of patients (Supplemental Figure  
327 4), CD4 T cell counts were normal in 67% of patients while CD8 T cell counts were increased  
328 in 52% of patients and remained stable over time. An inverted CD4/CD8 ratio ( $<1.0$ ) was  
329 found in 82% of patients. When extended naive/memory T cell phenotype analysis was  
330 performed, the increased CD8 T cell number appeared as resulting from expanded CD8 T  
331 cells population with an effector/memory phenotype. Nearly all patients analyzed presented  
332 with a low number of naive CD4 T cells (CD31+CD45RA+/CD4+; 71% of patients) and  
333 naive CD8 T cells (CCR7+CD45RA+/CD8+; 100% of patients) worsening over time (Figure  
334 5F, G and Supplemental Figure 5A, B).

335

### 336 **Non-immunological features**

337

338 Growth impairment ( $-2SD$  of height) was found in 14 out of 31 patients (45%), a feature not  
339 always related to chronic diarrhea since it was absent in 9 of them. Height and weight were  
340 similarly affected since body mass index was within the normal range in all but 2 patients  
341 (min =  $-2.8 SD$ ; max =  $+3.3 SD$ ; median =  $-0.7 SD$ ). Microcephaly was reported in 2 patients.  
342 Neurodevelopmental delay presented as mild cognitive impairment or learning disabilities  
343 was reported in 9 patients (31%). For one patient, extensibility of joints and increased glucose  
344 levels in the blood were also reported. Liver cysts and polycystic kidneys were reported in  
345 one patient each.

346

**347 Treatment**

348 Twenty-two patients received various antibiotic prophylaxis (trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole  
349 or azithromycin). The majority of patients (89%) received Ig replacement therapy (median  
350 age at onset of treatment 5 years; range 1 to 35 years). Five patients were treated with steroids  
351 because of autoimmune cytopenia (n= 2) or lymphoproliferation (n= 3). Three patients were  
352 treated with rituximab to treat lymphoproliferation (n= 2) or autoimmune hemolytic anemia  
353 (n= 1). Three patients were splenectomized, two for autoimmune cytopenia and one as a  
354 diagnostic procedure of massive splenomegaly. Immunosuppressive drugs for digestive tract  
355 disease were given in 3 patients in different combination (azathioprine, mycophenolate  
356 mofetil, methotrexate and infliximab). Episodes of lymphomas were treated conventionally  
357 with chemotherapy associated in some cases with radiotherapy and in three patients with  
358 autologous HSCT. Allogeneic HSCT from a HLA matched (10/10) unrelated donor was  
359 performed in one patient (P27b) because of molecular diagnosis, recurrent infections and the  
360 family history. The conditioning regimen consisted in treosulfan 42 g/m<sup>2</sup>, fludarabine 150  
361 mg/m<sup>2</sup> and alamtuzumab. Five months post HSCT he was alive and well with 100% donor  
362 chimerism and no sign of GVHD. Since the diagnosis of APDS2, 6 patients were started on  
363 rapamycin treatment. The time of follow up after onset of rapamycin treatment was too short  
364 to evaluate treatment efficacy for 4 patients. Two APDS2 patients were doing well on  
365 rapamycin treatment. For both patients significant reduction of lymphoproliferation was  
366 reported.

367

**368 Discussion**

369 Our retrospective analysis comparing clinical features of APDS2/PASLI-R1 patients  
370 indicated a highly heterogeneous clinical phenotype with recurrent ENT and broncho-

371 pulmonary infections during early childhood as the most common clinical manifestation.  
372 Chronic benign lymphoproliferative complications with various degrees of severity  
373 manifesting as adenopathies, spleno- or hepatomegaly were observed. Persistent EBV and/or  
374 CMV viremia were detected in several patients, indicating impaired control of viral  
375 infections. Predominant biological parameters included HIGM features, B cell lymphopenia  
376 associated with increased frequency of transitional B cells, decreased naive CD4 and CD8 T  
377 cell numbers and increased cell number and frequency of CD8 effector/memory T cells. B  
378 cell lymphoma, especially CHL, DLBCL and marginal zone B cell lymphoma were  
379 frequently reported in our cohort, indicating the oncogenic character of these *PIK3R1* splice-  
380 site mutations. Non-infectious and immunological manifestations noted in our APDS2 cohort  
381 of patients were growth retardation and mild neurodevelopmental delay.

382

383 Overall our work underscores the conclusion that APDS2 shares similarities with APDS1.  
384 Both syndromes present a predominant antibody deficiency frequently presented as an hyper-  
385 IgM like syndrome associated to a progressive B and naive T cell lymphopenia and massive  
386 lymphoproliferation. The phenotypic heterogeneity of APDS2 patients, similar to that  
387 observed in APDS1, may be related to the patient's history of infections, environmental  
388 factors, and/or the presence of modifier genes.

389 However, in contrast to APDS1 (Coulter et al., submitted), histological analysis revealed in  
390 the two available tonsil biopsies a reduced size of germinal centers. Although we cannot  
391 exclude that this observation could be due to the heterogeneous spectrum of the disease since  
392 only a limited number of biopsies were available, it might suggest that deletion of exon 11 of  
393 the *PIK3R1* gene affects not only p110 $\delta$  but other catalytic subunits of class IA PI3Ks.

394 Increased or normal IgM together with decreased IgG and IgA serum levels and B cell  
395 lymphopenia associated with increased frequency of transitional B cells were frequently

396 observed in APDS2 patients and can be explained by an intrinsic B cell defect leading to  
397 enhanced differentiation of APDS2 B lymphocytes into short-lived IgM producing  
398 plasmablasts as reported for PTEN deficient murine B cells (17). Our histological analysis  
399 identifying numerous large IgM positive B cells located in the interfollicular area further  
400 supports this hypothesis. Moreover, our histological analysis indicated that hyperactive PI3K  
401 signalling interferes with the germinal centre structure likely inhibiting Ig class switch  
402 recombination. Impaired Ig class switch recombination as a cause of disturbed germinal  
403 centre architecture was indeed recently described in a murine model analysing hyperactive  
404 PI3K signalling in germinal centre B lymphocytes (18). The B cell lymphopenia in the blood  
405 of APDS2 patients could be explained by disturbed migration since B cells are proliferating in  
406 the lymphnodes as indicated by our histological analysis.

407 The major complication of APDS2 patients (as well as of APDS1 patients) is the development  
408 of B cell lymphoma (9/36; 25%) (8, 9). Predisposition of APDS2 (as for APDS1) to B-cell  
409 lymphomagenesis could be due to several immunological abnormalities, such as a defective  
410 T-cell-mediated immune surveillance or uncontrolled B cell activation and proliferation or  
411 both. As the histopathological analysis indicated an important hyperplasia of PD1-positive T  
412 cells, aberrant  $T_{FH}$  cell function could be considered as an additional factor for promoting  
413 survival of neoplastic B cells, as previously suggested for  $T_{FH}$  cells present within the  
414 microenvironment of nodular lymphocyte predominant Hodgkin lymphoma (NLPHL) and  
415 follicular lymphoma (FL)(10). Oncogenic potential of *PIK3R1* mutations have been  
416 previously suggested by the presence of somatic mutations in *PIK3R1* in Burkitt Lymphomas  
417 (11) and in endometrioid and colon cancers (12) affecting the amino acid residues 437-475,  
418 encoded by exon 11 (coding exon 10) of the *PIK3R1* gene. Moreover, in the somatic  
419 mutations in cancer (COSMIC) project, mutations affecting the + 1 position (G to A and G to  
420 T) and +2 position (T to C and T to G) at the same splice-acceptor site of the *PIK3R1* gene

421 found mutated in APDS2 have been recently annotated, a strong argument in favor of the  
422 oncogenic character of these APDS2 splice-site mutations. These somatic mutations were  
423 found in carcinoma located in ovary, large intestine, stomach and malignant melanoma  
424 underlining the possible oncogenic potential of those mutations not only for B cell lymphoma  
425 but for other cell types, suggesting an impairment of the *PIK3RI* gene encoded regulatory  
426 subunits not only on p110 $\delta$  (PI3K $\delta$ ) activity. Growth impairment, extensibility of joints and  
427 increased glucose levels in the blood reported for one patient might reflect deregulated p110 $\alpha$   
428 (and/or p110 $\beta$ ) activity. More research will be needed to characterize possible effects of the  
429 mutant p85 $\alpha^{\Delta 434-475}$  protein on the different catalytic p110 subunits in other cells (non-  
430 lymphoid lineage cells) which could be hidden by the predominant immunological phenotype.  
431 Of note, heterozygous non-synonymous germline mutations located especially within the C-  
432 terminal part of p85 $\alpha$  (downstream of amino acid 475) result in a rare autosomal dominant  
433 multisystem disease called SHORT syndrome described to be due to loss of PI3K-activity  
434 (13-15). SHORT syndrome patients present with short stature (S), hyperextensibility of joints  
435 or hernia (inguinal) or both (H), ocular depression (O), Rieger anomaly (R), and teething  
436 delay (T).

437 Allogeneic HSCT for APDS2 was recently reported for one case (5). Herein we describe a  
438 second successful case similarly to the 8 of 11 successful cases of allogeneic HSCT for  
439 APDS1 (Coulter et al., submitted). Thus allogeneic HSCT appears to be a treatment option for  
440 severely affected APDS2, especially in the light of the increased risk of lymphoma  
441 development (Table 1 and Figure 1B), although no prognostic marker for the development of  
442 lymphoma has been identified so far.

443 Most patients have received Ig replacement therapy since infancy to reduce the infection  
444 incidence. Since the diagnosis of APDS2, six patients were started on long-term rapamycin  
445 treatment based on the knowledge that the serine/threonine kinase mammalian target of

446 rapamycin (mTOR) is activated by PI3K signaling, and rapamycin treatment was reported to  
447 be beneficial in APDS1 patients ((7) and personal observation). For two APDS2 patients in  
448 our cohort rapamycin treatment was beneficial. For one patient treatment led to disappearance  
449 of chronic conjunctivitis and normalization of tonsil size and for the other patient to reduced  
450 lymph node, liver and spleen sizes; however, the impact of this treatment on lymphocyte cell  
451 numbers and antibody titers and over a longer time period has to be further investigated.  
452 Evaluation of the efficacy of rapamycin treatment on the other APDS2 patients in our cohort  
453 was not possible due to the short treatment period. Although continuous rapamycin treatment  
454 might turn out to be very beneficial for APDS2 patients, it bears the risk of unwanted side-  
455 effects outside the immune system (16). Since the hyper-activated PI3K signaling in APDS2  
456 lymphocytes is mediated by the catalytic p110 $\delta$ -subunit (1, 2), treatment with p110 $\delta$ -specific  
457 inhibitor could offer a new treatment prospective with possibly higher efficiency and less  
458 unwanted side-effects.

459 Overall our study indicates that the splice-donor and splice-acceptor sites of the exon 11  
460 (coding exon 10) of the *PIK3R1* gene should be sequenced in sporadic or autosomal-dominant  
461 primary immunodeficiencies associated with lymphadenopathies, growth retardation,  
462 antibody deficiency, especially HIGM, B cell lymphopenia with an increased percentage of  
463 transitional B cells as well as naïve CD4 and naïve CD8 T cell lymphopenia.

464 Finally, our study also indicates the need for further prospective, large-cohort studies of  
465 APDS2 in order to identify clinical or laboratory biomarkers that predict disease severity and  
466 to document the impact of different treatment options.

467

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474  
475

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529

530 **Figure Legends**

531

532 **Figure 1. Overall survival and lymphoma-free living of APDS2 patients.**

533 A) Overall survival of APDS2 patients from the cohort. (B) Cumulative risk of developing  
534 lymphoma according to age: the time of lymphoma-free life in APDS2 patients is herein  
535 depicted.

536

537 **Figure 2. Confirmed heterozygous mutations in the *PIK3R1* gene of APDS2 patients.**

538 Frequency and number of patients carrying indicated mutations are presented. Mutations  
539 present in several patients from one family were counted as one mutation.

540

541 **Figure 3. Main clinical characteristics of APDS2 cohort.**

542 Shown is the percentage of patients, which presented with indicated clinical features. ENT:  
543 ear, nose throat; neurodev. delay: neurodevelopmental delay.

544

545 **Figure 4. Main clinical complications and biological features of APDS2 patients.**

546 A) Clinical features of APDS2 patients. B) Biological features. \* median age at medical  
547 report of alive patients, red: affected; light yellow: unaffected and boxes with a diagonal:  
548 unknown. C) Variability of lymphoproliferation; light yellow: unaffected and boxes with a  
549 diagonal: unknown; dark yellow: ENT chronic lymphoid hyperplasia without the need of  
550 surgical interventions, lymphadenopathies with lymph node sizes from 1-3cm; orange:  
551 adenoidectomies and/or tonsillectomy, lymph node sizes from 3-5cm; red: multiple surgical  
552 resections, lymph node sizes larger than 5 cm. Splenomegaly was graded by its size: light  
553 yellow if it was not present, dark yellow up to half distance between coastal margin and  
554 ombilicus, dark orange up to ombilicus, or red above ombilicus.

555

**556 Figure 5. Histological features of APDS2 patient's tonsil biopsies.**

557 A to E: APDS2 patient. A' to E': Control. All pictures are at the same magnification: x10;  
558 GC: germinal centre, MZ: mantle zone. B-cell Follicles are small (A: follicles defined by  
559 circles, B, C, D) with a few CD20+ B-cells (inset CD20 staining A) compared to control  
560 (Inset CD20 staining A') and associated with prominent CD3+ T-cell hyperplasia (B and B',  
561 anti-CD3 staining) compared to control. PD1 staining underlines the important hyperplasia of  
562 germinal centre- and extrafollicular-PD1+ T-cell (C) compared to control (C'). Germinal  
563 centres are ill-defined (A, B, C) and IgM+ cells usually localized in the germinal centre (D',  
564 control) are scattered in the T-cell zone (D). Only few residual IgD+ mantle cell zone cells are  
565 present (E) compared to control (E').

566

**567 Figure 6. Immunological features of APDS2 patients.**

568 A) IgG, B) IgA and C) IgM level and D) B cell number of APDS2 patients before onset of Ig  
569 replacement or other therapies. E) CD4 F) CD4 naive, G) CD8, H) CD8 naive T cell subsets  
570 of APDS2 patients. E) and G) before onset of Ig replacement or other therapies and F) and H)  
571 at last evaluation. Solid line: lower reference value; dashed line: upper reference value.

572

1 **Table 1 : Malignant diseases**

2

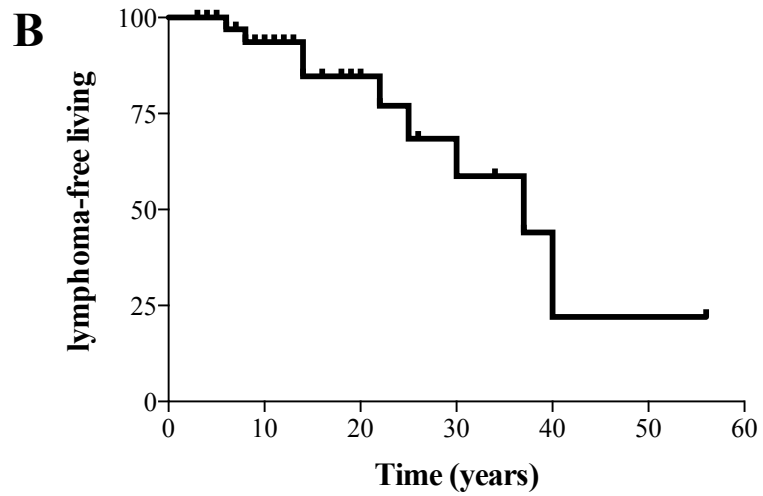
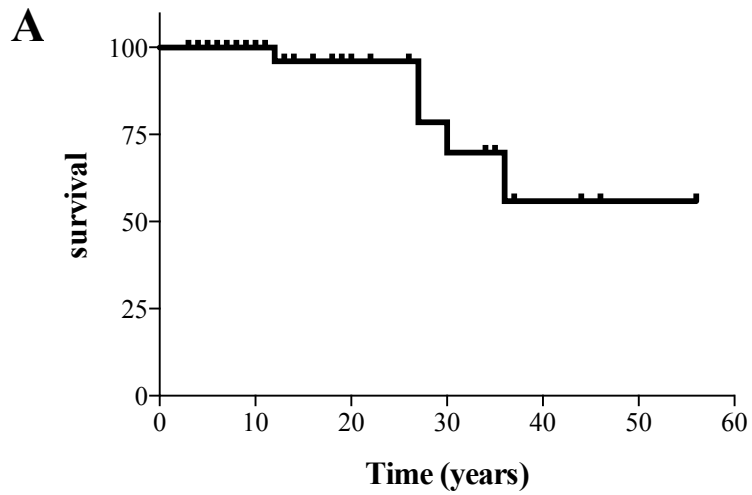
| <b>Patients</b> | <b>Age at PID<br/>diagnostic (yrs)</b> | <b>Age at onset of<br/>cancer (yrs)</b> | <b>Type of cancer</b>        | <b>Dead/ Alive</b> |
|-----------------|--|---|------------------------------|--------------------|
| P5              | 4                                      | 25                                      | DLBCL                        | Dead               |
| P11             | 22                                     | 30                                      | CHL                          | Dead               |
| P12             | Infancy                                | 14/27                                   | CHL/DLBCL                    | Alive              |
| P19             | 9                                      | 6/11                                    | DLBCL/MALT                   | Alive              |
| P20a            | 36                                     | 14/19/35                                | CHL/MZL/CHL                  | Dead               |
| P20b            | 8                                      | 8                                       | CHL                          | Alive              |
| P22             | 6                                      | 30                                      | Breast papillary<br>neoplasm | Alive              |
| P23b            | Infancy                                | 37                                      | CHL                          | Alive              |
| P27a            | 31                                     | 40                                      | CLL                          | Alive              |
| P28             | 5                                      | 22                                      | DLBCL                        | Dead               |

3 DLBCL : Diffuse large B cell Lymphoma; CHL: Classical Hodgkin Lymphoma; MALT: Mucosa-associated  
4 lymphoid tissue Lymphoma; CLL: Chronic Lymphocytic Leukaemia; MZL: Marginal zone B cell Lymphoma

5

6

7



PIK3R1

G>C;  
n=1 (3%)

TTTCTAG

Exon 11  
(coding Exon 10)

G>A

n=13 (42%)

G>C

n=9 (29%)

G>T

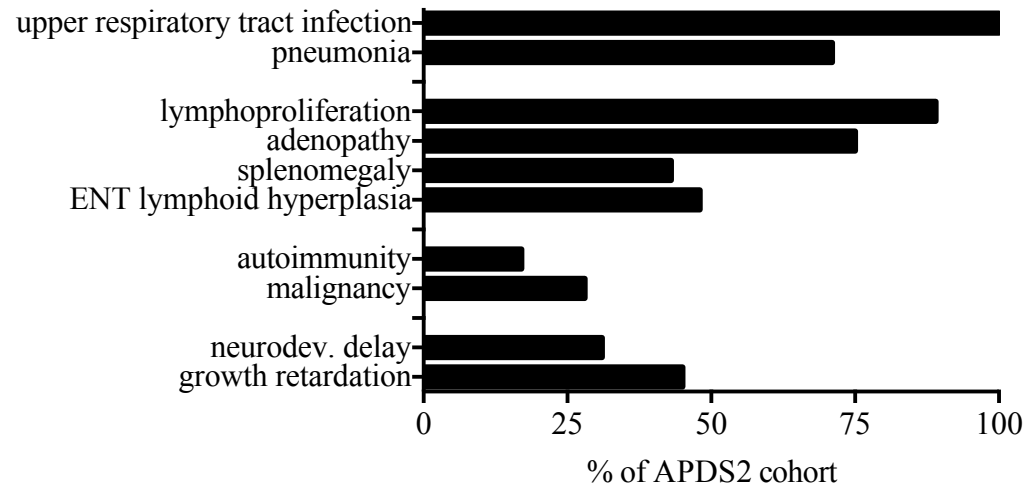
n=4 (13%)

G T G A G T T T T C

T>A;  
n=2 (6%)

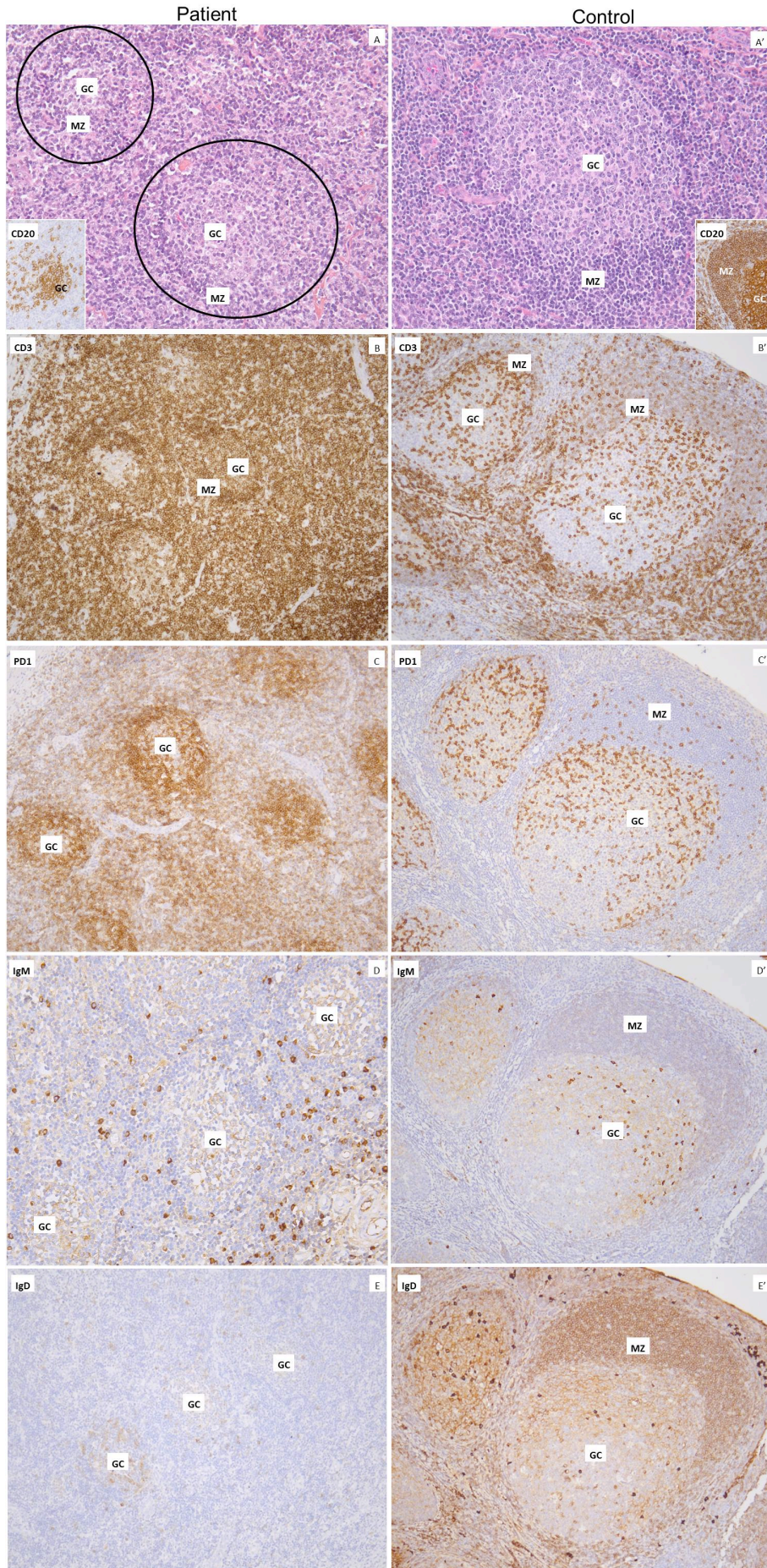
TG deletion;  
n=1 (3%)

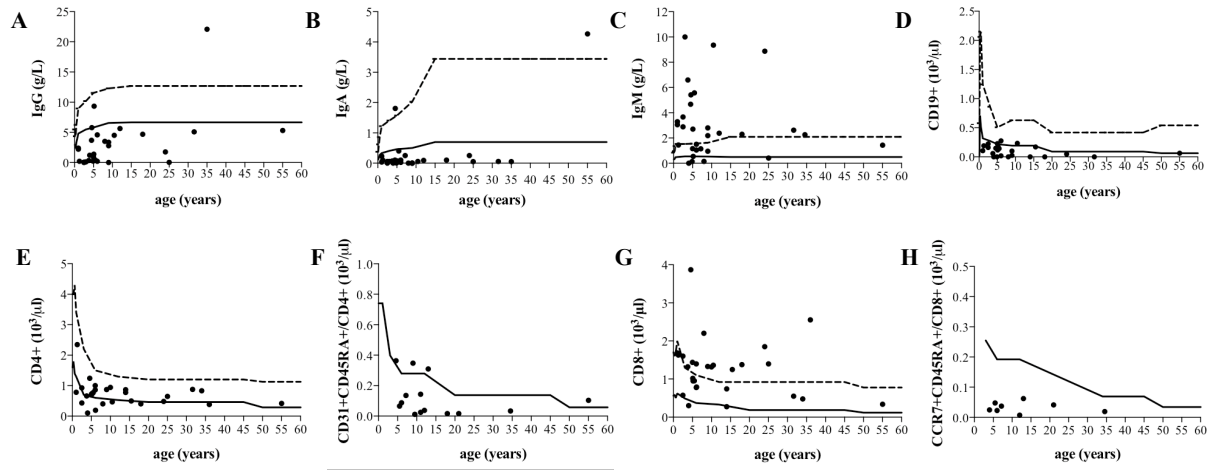
T>G;  
n=1 (3%)











**Table E1. B lymphocyte subsets and Ig serum levels at initial assessment**

| Patient | Age (yrs) | IgG (g/L) | IgA (g/L) | IgM (g/L) | CD19+ ( $\mu$ L) | CD19+/CD21+<br>CD24++ (%) | CD19+/CD38+<br>IgM+ (%) | Memory B cells (%) | Switched memory B cells (%) | MZB cells (%) |
|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| P1      | 1         | 2.2       | 0.23      | 3.3       |                  |                           |                         |                    | 11                          |               |
| P2      | 2.5       | 0.07      | 0.06      | 3.67      | 162              | 26                        |                         | 8                  | 25                          | 45            |
| P3a     | 34        | 22        | 0.05      | 2.26      |                  |                           |                         |                    |                             |               |
| P3b     | 2.5       | 0         | 0         | 2.89      | 224              |                           |                         | 8                  | 41                          |               |
| P4a     | NA        |           |           |           |                  |                           |                         |                    |                             |               |
| P4b     | 5.5       | 3.64      | <0.07     | 1.66      | 144              |                           |                         |                    |                             |               |
| P5      | 4         | 1.2       | 0         | 0         | 0                |                           |                         |                    |                             |               |
| P6      | 6         | 0.2       | 0.03      | 1.5       | 20               |                           |                         |                    |                             |               |
| P7      | NA        |           |           |           |                  |                           |                         |                    |                             |               |
| P8      | 5.1       | 1.4       | 0.07      | 2.7       | 120              |                           |                         | 11                 | 5                           | 6             |
| P9      | 3.8       | 0.33      | 0.07      | 6.6       | 60               |                           |                         | 37                 | 26                          | 11            |
| P10     | 1.3       | 0.2       | 0.1       | 1.44      | 192              |                           |                         |                    |                             |               |
| P11     | NA        |           |           |           |                  |                           |                         |                    |                             |               |
| P12     | NA        |           |           |           |                  |                           |                         |                    |                             |               |
| P13     | 12        | 5.64      | 0.09      | 2.38      |                  |                           |                         |                    |                             |               |
| P14     | 6         | 4.6       | 0.1       | 1.05      | 277              |                           |                         |                    |                             |               |
| P15     | 24        | 1.75      | 0.254     | 8.87      | 48               |                           |                         |                    |                             |               |
| P16     | 9         | 2.8       | 0         | > 2.8     | 100              |                           |                         |                    |                             |               |
| P17     | 10.5      | 4.5       | 0.06      | 9.35      | 233              |                           |                         |                    |                             |               |
| P18     | 4.5       | 3.68      | 0.1       | 4.68      |                  |                           |                         |                    |                             |               |
| P19     | 17        | 3.37      | 0         | 2.19      |                  |                           |                         | 2.5                | 5.1                         |               |
| P20a    | NA        |           |           |           |                  |                           |                         |                    |                             |               |
| P20b    | 8         | 3.5       | 0         | 0.15      |                  |                           |                         |                    |                             |               |
| P21     | 7         | 0.16      | 0.25      | 1.15      |                  |                           |                         |                    |                             |               |
| P22     | NA        |           |           |           |                  |                           |                         |                    |                             |               |
| P23a    | NA        |           |           |           |                  |                           |                         |                    |                             |               |
| P23b    | NA        |           |           |           |                  |                           |                         |                    |                             |               |
| P24     | NA        |           |           |           |                  |                           |                         |                    |                             |               |
| P25     | 4.9       | 0.24      | 0.01      | 0.14      | 0.52             |                           |                         |                    |                             |               |
| P26     | 4.6       | 5.79      | 1.81      | 5.42      | 149              |                           | 15.24                   | 2.3                | 1.3                         | 0.2           |
| P27a    | 31.6      | 5.09      | 0.06      | 2.62      | 250              |                           |                         |                    |                             |               |
| P27b    | 3         | 0.1       | 0.06      | 10        |                  |                           |                         |                    |                             |               |
| P28     | 5.2       | 9.34      | 0.06      | 0.55      | 180              |                           |                         |                    |                             |               |
| P29     | 5         | 0.9       | 0.07      | 1.16      | 228              |                           | 65.8                    | 0.8                | 0.5                         | 0.3           |
| P30     | 1         | 2.38      | 0.04      | 3.06      | 107              | 70.1                      |                         | 9.2                |                             | 3.9           |
| P31     | 18        | 4.7       | 0.1       | 2.3       | 55               |                           |                         | 14                 | 0.0                         |               |





\* < 2 years after post chemotherapy; \*\* > 10 years after chemotherapy and radiotherapy for HL; \*\*\* > 10 years after chemotherapy for lymphoma; \$ on immunosuppressive drugs; (s) on immunoglobulin replacement

Table E3. T lymphocyte subsets at initial assessment

| Patients    | Age (yrs) | CD3+ (/μL) | CD4+ (/μL) | CD8+ (/μL) | CD16+CD56+ (μl) |
|-------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|-----------------|
| <b>P1</b>   | 1         |            |            |            |                 |
| <b>P2</b>   | 2.5       | 1512       | 432        | 576        | 126             |
| <b>P3a</b>  | 34        | 1394       | 833        | 476        |                 |
| <b>P3b</b>  | 2.5       | 2688       | 928        | 1600       | 224             |
| <b>P4a</b>  | NA        |            |            |            |                 |
| <b>P4b</b>  | 5.5       | 1878       | 771        | 953        | 285             |
| <b>P5</b>   | 4         | 400        | 100        | 300        | 100             |
| <b>P6</b>   | 6         | 2500       | 1000       | 1400       | 350             |
| <b>P7</b>   | 15.5      | 2035       | 496        | 1251       |                 |
| <b>P8</b>   | 5.1       | 2160       | 730        | 1020       | 350             |
| <b>P9</b>   | 3.8       | 2210       | 660        | 1320       | 120             |
| <b>P10</b>  | 1.3       | 4363       | 2349       | 1630       | 288             |
| <b>P11</b>  | NA        |            |            |            |                 |
| <b>P12</b>  | NA        |            |            |            |                 |
| <b>P13</b>  | 12        |            |            |            |                 |
| <b>P14</b>  | 6         | 1793       | 861        | 780        | 633             |
| <b>P15</b>  | 24        | 2560       | 482        | 1850       | 134             |
| <b>P16</b>  | 9         | 2350       | 870        | 1330       | 190             |
| <b>P17</b>  | 10.5      | 2100       | 470        | 1363       | 2350            |
| <b>P18</b>  | 4.5       | 1900       | 779        | 741        |                 |
| <b>P19</b>  | 17        |            |            |            |                 |
| <b>P20a</b> | 36        |            |            |            |                 |
| <b>P20b</b> | NA        |            |            |            |                 |
| <b>P21</b>  | NA        |            |            |            |                 |
| <b>P22</b>  | 6         |            |            |            |                 |
| <b>P23a</b> | 16        | 2661       | 2233       | 942        | 430             |
| <b>P23b</b> | NA        |            |            |            |                 |
| <b>P24</b>  | NA        |            |            |            |                 |
| <b>P25</b>  | 4.9       | 1144       | 195        | 789        | 115             |
| <b>P26</b>  | 4.6       | 5357       | 1243       | 3868       | 764             |
| <b>P27a</b> | 31.6      | 1200       | 880        | 550        | 210             |
| <b>P27b</b> | NA        |            |            |            |                 |
| <b>P28</b>  | 5.2       | 1580       | 730        | 950        | 200             |
| <b>P29</b>  | 5         | 2187       | 696        | 1439       | 285             |
| <b>P30</b>  | 1         | 2769       | 781        | 1687       | 835             |
| <b>P31</b>  | 18        | 1800       | 400        | 1380       | 320             |

**Table E4. T lymphocyte subsets at later assessment**

| Age (yrs) | CD3+ (/μL) | CD4+ (/μL) | Naive CD4 CD31+ CD45RA/ CD4+ (%) | Naive CD4 CD31+ CD45RA/ CD4+(/μL) | CD8+ (/μL) | Naive CD8 CCR7+ CD45RA+ /CD8+(%) | Naive CD8 CCR7+ CD45RA+ /CD8+(/μL) | CD16+ CD56+ (/μL) | Senescent T cell (%) |
|-----------|------------|------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| 12        | 1440       | 540        | 7                                | 38                                | 702        | 1                                | 7                                  |                   | 19.5                 |
| 5.5       | 957        | 330        | 20                               | 66                                | 341        | 14                               | 48                                 | 55                | 16                   |
| 34.6      | 1394       | 833        | 4                                | 33                                | 476        | 4                                | 19                                 | 187               | 16.3                 |
| 4         | 3432       | 780        |                                  |                                   | 2457       |                                  | 25                                 | 156               | 8.89                 |
| 55        | 764        | 420        | 24                               | 103                               | 337        |                                  |                                    | 356               |                      |
| 18.5      | 2107       | 617        | 7                                | 42                                | 1330       | 5                                | 63                                 | 138               |                      |
| 26*       | 280        | 20         | 0                                | 0                                 | 260        |                                  |                                    | 20                |                      |
| 25        | 1940       | 770        |                                  |                                   | 1140       |                                  |                                    | 240               |                      |
| 22        | 1714       | 452        | 5                                | 23                                | 1036       | 4                                | 41                                 | 132               | 23.4                 |
| 6         | 11558      | 513        | 17                               | 87                                | 760        | 2                                | 15                                 | 228               | 21.3                 |
| 11        | 1440       | 530        | 22                               | 140                               | 750        |                                  |                                    | 30                |                      |
| NA        |            |            |                                  |                                   |            |                                  |                                    |                   |                      |
| 25        |            | 650        |                                  |                                   | 1400       |                                  |                                    |                   |                      |
| NA        |            |            |                                  |                                   |            |                                  |                                    |                   |                      |
| 18        | 704        | 200        | 8.5                              | 17                                | 415        |                                  |                                    | 1031              |                      |
| 16.5      | 2067       | 886        |                                  |                                   | 1187       |                                  |                                    | 14                |                      |
| NA        |            |            |                                  |                                   |            |                                  |                                    |                   |                      |
| 9.5       | 2155       | 488        | 3.2                              | 12                                | 1384       |                                  |                                    | 56                |                      |
| 11        | 2930       | 530        | 4.7                              | 25                                | 2390       |                                  |                                    | 1650              |                      |
| 13        | 2040       | 1032       | 30                               | 310                               | 888        | 7                                | 62                                 | 312               | 26.4                 |
| NA        |            |            |                                  |                                   |            |                                  |                                    |                   |                      |
| 36**      | 3015       | 385        | 4                                | 16                                | 2554       | 1                                | 23                                 | 157               |                      |
| 26***     | 2600       | 400        | 0.5                              | 2                                 | 2200       | 0                                | 0                                  | 100               |                      |
| 7.2       | 1312       | 432        | 31                               | 135                               | 512        | 7                                | 37                                 |                   |                      |
| 33.7\$    | 4488       | 1079       |                                  |                                   | 3210       |                                  |                                    |                   |                      |
| 16        | 2233       | 942        |                                  |                                   | 1318       |                                  |                                    | 430               |                      |
| NA        |            |            |                                  |                                   |            |                                  |                                    |                   |                      |
| 14        | 1242       | 869        |                                  |                                   | 276        |                                  |                                    |                   |                      |
| NA        |            |            |                                  |                                   |            |                                  |                                    |                   |                      |
| 4.6       | 5357       | 1243       | 29                               | 363                               | 3868       |                                  |                                    | 764               |                      |
| 44.4\$    | 455        | 228        |                                  |                                   | 218        |                                  |                                    | 6                 |                      |
| 15        | 965        | 297        | 35                               | 103                               | 619        |                                  |                                    | 283               |                      |
| 25*       | 3302       | 404        |                                  |                                   | 2898       |                                  |                                    | 370               |                      |
| 9         | 3839       | 2614       | 13                               | 347                               | 1225       |                                  |                                    | 124               |                      |
| NA        |            |            |                                  |                                   |            |                                  |                                    |                   |                      |
| NA        |            |            |                                  |                                   |            |                                  |                                    |                   |                      |

\* < 2 years after post chemotherapy; \*\* > 10 years after chemotherapy and radiotherapy for HL; \*\*\* > 10 years after chemotherapy for lymphoma; \$ on immunosuppressive drugs; (s) on immunoglobulin replacement

1 **Clinical and immunological phenotype associated with activated PI3-kinase delta**  
2 **syndrome 2 (APDS2 / PASLI-R1) - A cohort study**

3 **Online repository Materials**

4 **Supplemental Figure 1. Novel splice acceptor and splice donor mutation at exon 11**  
5 **(coding exon 10) of the PIK3R1 gene lead to exon skipping.**

6 A) RT-PCRs with primers flanking exon 11 of the *PIK3R1* gene with RNA extracted from  
7 patients (P19: PBLs; P8: fibroblasts and P10: T cell blasts) and healthy individuals (control  
8 1,2,3: PBLs; control 4: fibroblasts; control 5: T cell blasts). P19: *de novo* mutation at splice  
9 acceptor site (GRCh38; NM181523.2; C.1300 -1 position; G to C); P8: *de novo* mutation at  
10 splice donor site (GRCh38; NM181523.2; C.1425 +2 position T to G) and P10: 2 nt deletion  
11 at splice donor site (GRCh38; NM181523.2; C.1425 +2,3 position; TG deletion).

12 B) Sequencing chromatogram showing the skipping of exon 11 (coding exon 10). Sequencing  
13 was performed with PCR products amplified from cDNA from P28. P28: *de novo* mutation at  
14 splice donor site (GRCh38; NM181523.2; C.1425 +2 position T to A).

15

16 **Supplemental Figure 2. Large B-cells in the interfollicular area are in cycle.**

17 APDS2 patient's tonsils histology showed numerous Ki67 positive cells outside the positive  
18 germinal centre (A x10) in comparison to a control (A' x10). Double staining (B, CD20:  
19 brown, Ki67: red; x40) showed that large B-cells in the interfollicular area were in cycle.

20

21 **Supplemental Figure 3. B cell counts over time.**

22 Every single symbol represents an APDS2 patient. Solid line: lower reference value.

23

24 **Supplemental Figure 4. CD3 T cell counts.**



25 T cell counts before onset of any therapies. Solid line: lower reference value; dashed line:  
26 upper reference value.

27

28 **Supplemental Figure 5. Development of naive T cell numbers over time.**

29 Numbers of naive CD4 (A) and naive CD8 (B) T cells. Every single symbol represents an  
30 APDS2 patient. Solid line: lower reference value.

31

