

Supplementary information for  
**Facile discovery of a therapeutic agent for NK-mediated synergistic antitumor effects  
using a patient-derived 3D Platform**

Young Eun Lee,<sup>‡a,b</sup> Chae Min Yuk,<sup>‡a</sup> Minseok Lee,<sup>‡c</sup> Ki-Cheol Han,<sup>a</sup> Eunsung Jun,<sup>d,e</sup> Tae Sung Kim,<sup>b</sup> Ja-Lok Ku,<sup>f</sup> Sung G. Im,<sup>\*c</sup> Eunjung Lee<sup>\*c</sup> and Mihue Jang<sup>\*a,g</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Theragnosis Research Center, Biomedical Research Division, Korea Institute of Science and Technology, Seongbuk-Gu, Seoul 02792, Republic of Korea

<sup>b</sup>Department of Life Sciences, College of Life Sciences and Biotechnology, Korea University, Seoul 02841, Republic of Korea

<sup>c</sup>Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, Daejeon 34141, Republic of Korea

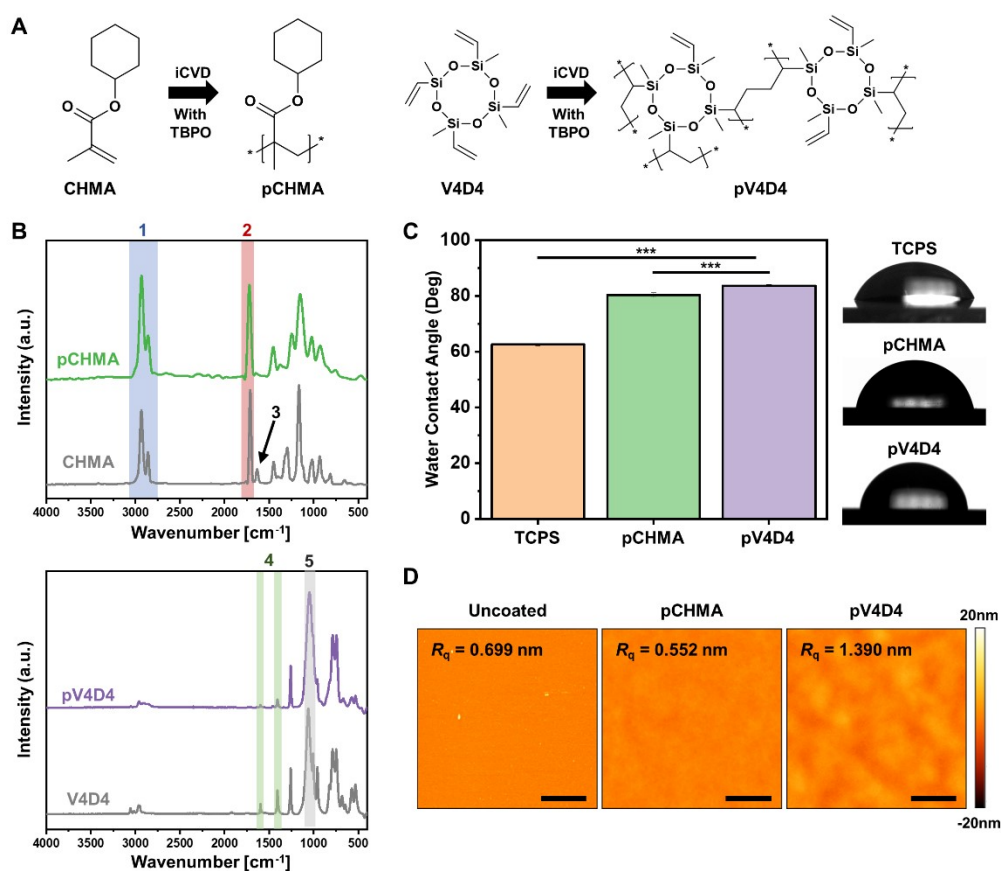
<sup>d</sup>Department of Convergence Medicine, Asan Institute for Life Sciences, University of Ulsan College of Medicine and Asan Medical Center, Seoul 05505, Republic of Korea

<sup>e</sup>Division of Hepato-Biliary and Pancreatic Surgery, Department of Surgery, University of Ulsan College of Medicine, Asan Medical Center, Seoul 05505, Republic of Korea

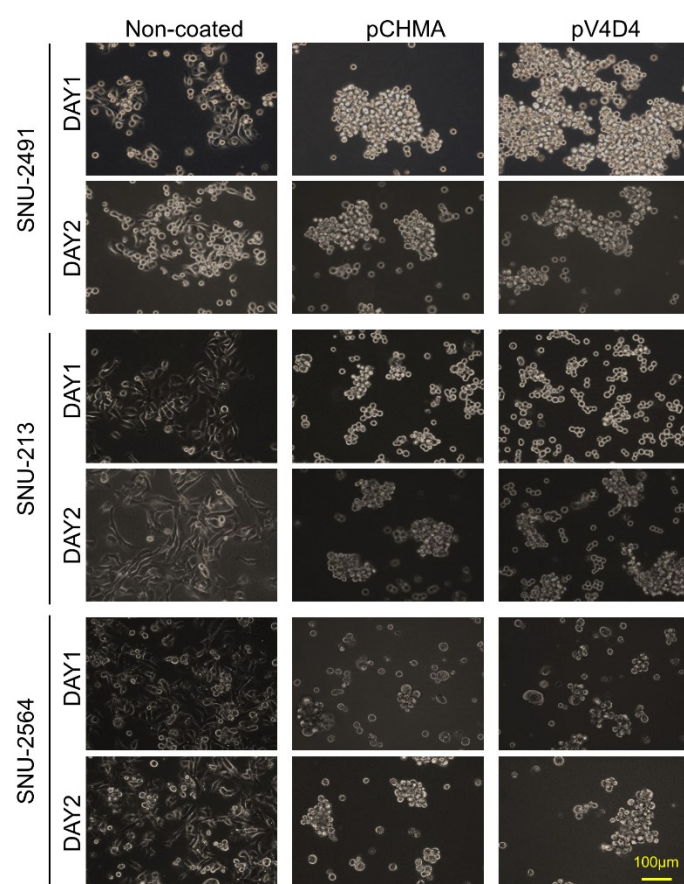
<sup>f</sup>Korean Cell Line Bank, Laboratory of Cell Biology, Cancer Research Institute, Seoul National University College of Medicine, Seoul 03080, Republic of Korea

<sup>g</sup>KHU-KIST Department of Converging Science and Technology, Kyung Hee University, Seoul 02447, Republic of Korea

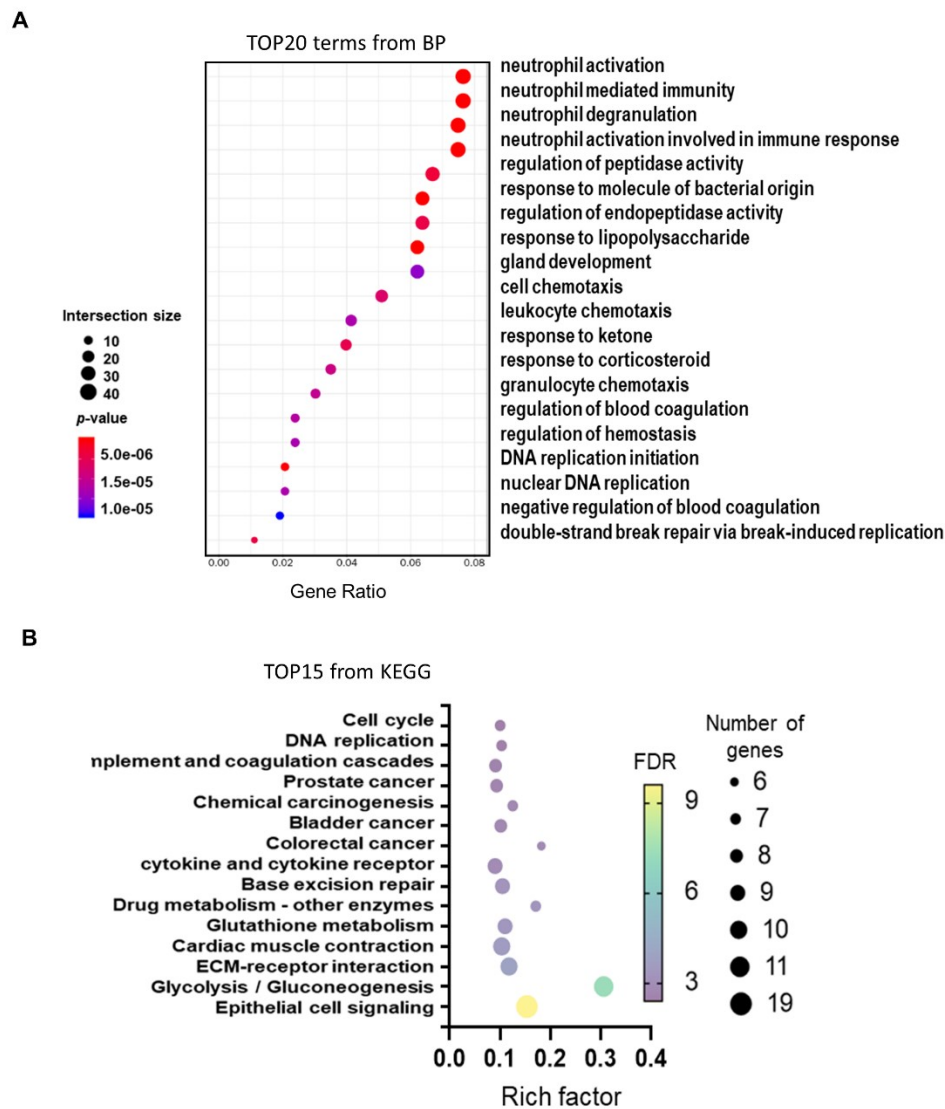
<sup>‡</sup>These authors contributed equally to this work



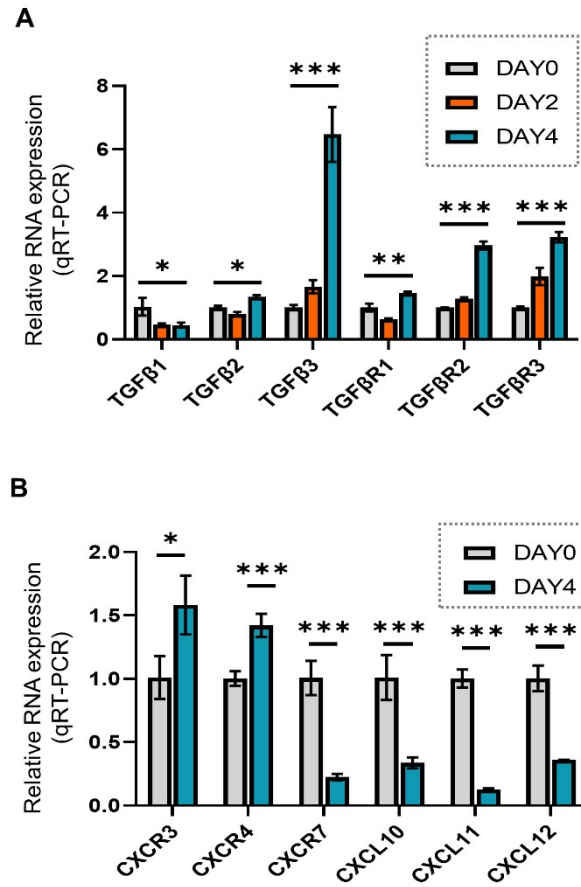
**Figure S1.** Characterization of polymer films synthesized through iCVD process. (A) Illustration of the synthetic scheme of pCHMA and pV4D4. (B) The FT-IR spectra of the polymers (1:  $-\text{CH}_2-$  symmetrical and asymmetrical cyclohexyl vibration peak, 2:  $-\text{C}=\text{O}$  stretching peak, 3:  $\text{C}=\text{C}$  vinyl peak, 4:  $\text{C}=\text{C}$  stretching peaks, 5:  $\text{Si}-\text{O}-\text{Si}$  peaks) (C) Water contact angle values ( $n = 3$ ) and images. (D) AFM images and the measured RMS roughness ( $R_q$ ) (Scale bar = 1  $\mu\text{m}$ ).



**Figure S2.** Cell aggregate morphologies of non-spheroid forming PDCs, using two types of hydrophobic polymers, pCHMA and pV4D4, were shown by optical microscopy. Scale bar indicates 100  $\mu\text{m}$ .

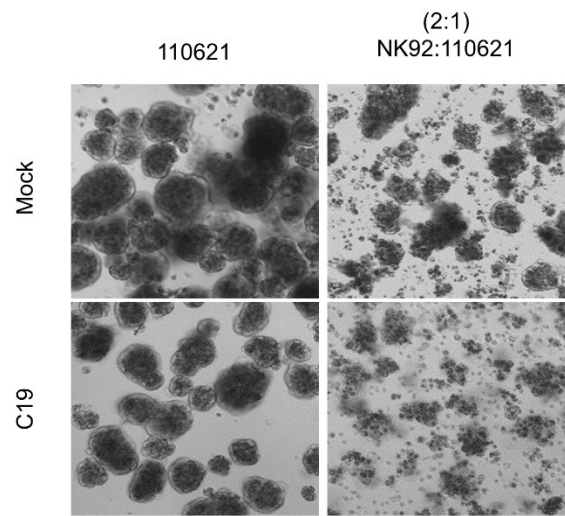


**Figure S3.** GO biological process pathway (A) and KEGG enrichment pathway analyses (B) based on WTS. DEGs were analyzed in 3D spheroids of 110621 and SNU2608 compared to the 2D cell culture conditions

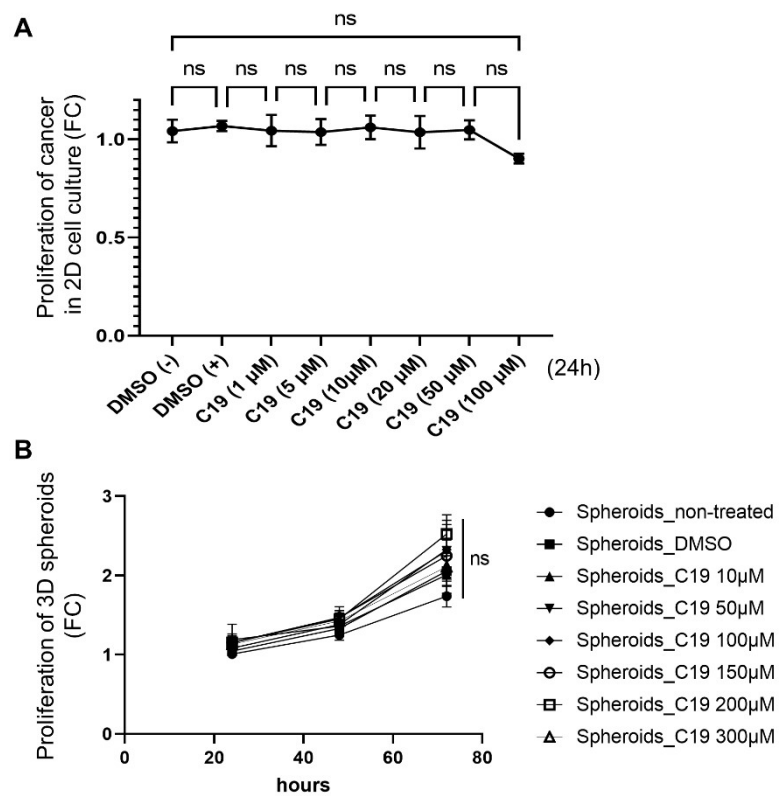


**Figure S4.** Expression levels of genes involved in ECM modeling and EMT function as measured by qRT-PCR in a 3D PDC spheroids. (A) The expression of TGF- $\beta$  cytokines and their receptors are shown. (B) The expression of chemokines and chemokine receptors are depicted. The p values were determined using a one-way ANOVA test followed by Tukey's multiple comparison test (A) or an unpaired Student's *t*-test (B). \* $p < 0.05$ ; \*\* $p < 0.01$ ; \*\*\* $p < 0.001$ .



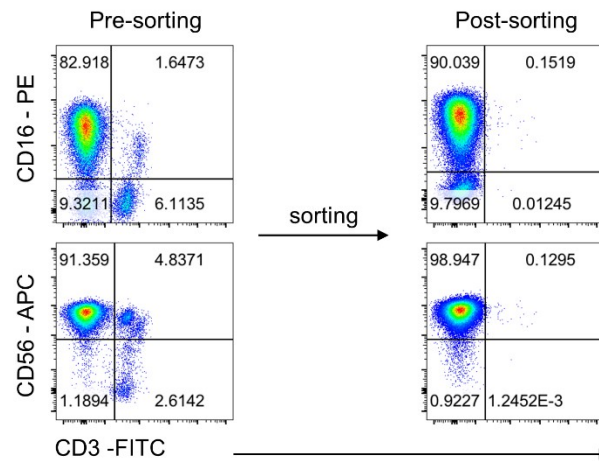


**Figure S6.** Co-treatment with C19 revealed significantly enhanced NK-mediated cytotoxicity. Morphology observation of NK-92-mediated cancer killing under the treatment of C19.

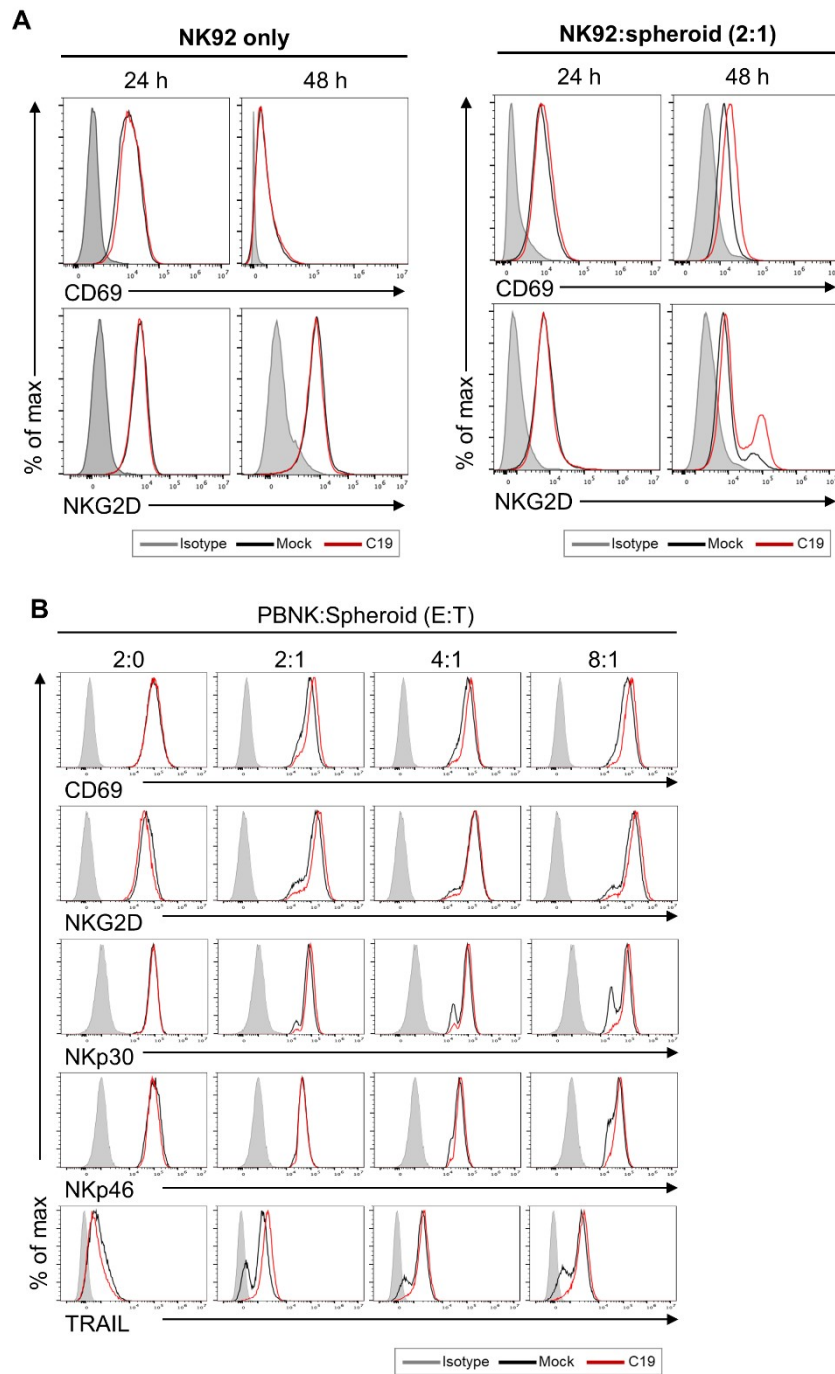


**Figure S7.** Proliferation comparison of 2D 110621 cancer cells and 3D 110621 spheroids in a C19 dose-dependent manner. The  $p$  values were determined using a one-way ANOVA test followed by Tukey's multiple comparison test. \* $p < 0.05$ ; \*\* $p < 0.01$ ; \*\*\* $p < 0.001$ .

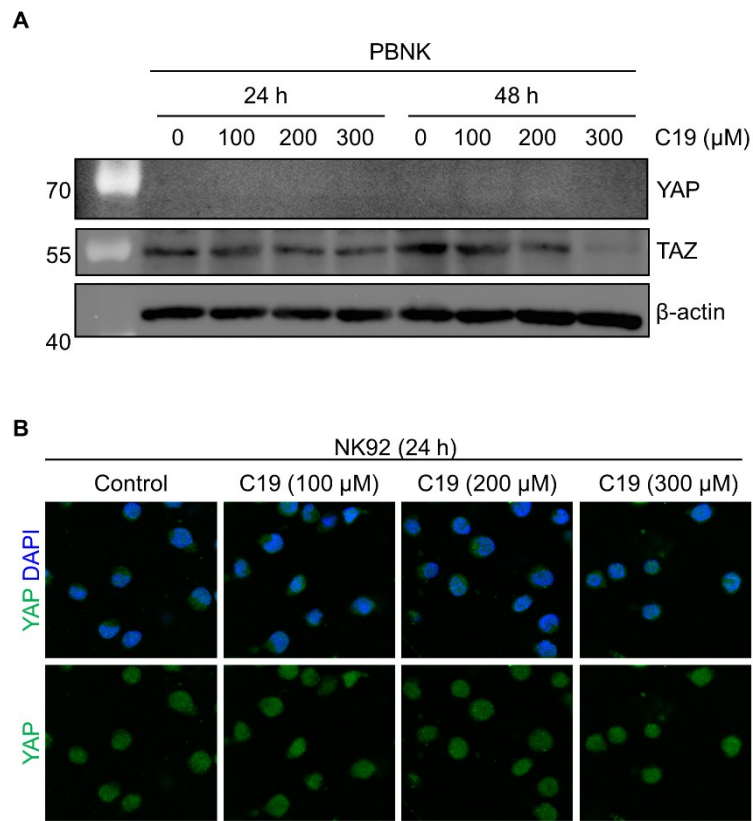




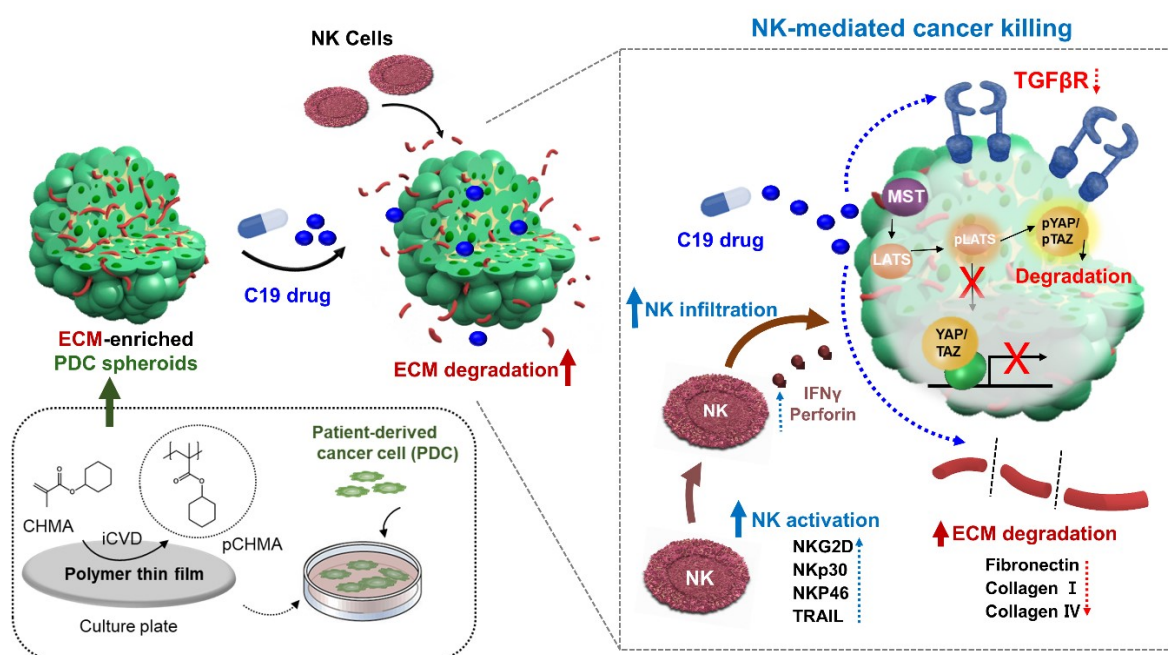
**Figure S8.** *In vitro* expansion and isolation of human PBNK cells. The PBMC cells were co-cultured with irradiated K562 feeder cells for 3 weeks and expanded PBNK cells were isolated for further experiments. The purity of PBNKs were analyzed by FACS analysis.



**Figure S9.** C19 induces activation of NK cells co-cultured with spheroid by flow cytometry. (A) Representative histograms show the levels of CD69 or NKG2D on only NK92 cells (left) and with spheroid (right) at a 2:1 effector:target ratio after 24 hours or 48 hours with C19. (B) Representative histograms show the level of PBNK cell activating markers.



**Figure S10.** (A) Expression of YAP/TAZ in PBNK cells upon treatment with C19 in a dose-dependent manner. (B) Fluorescence images of YAP protein in NK92 cells were exhibited with treatment of various concentration of C19.



**Figure S11.** 3D multicellular tumor spheroids from pancreatic cancer patient-derived cancer cells (PDCs) generated on poly (cyclohexyl methacrylate) (pCHMA)-coated culture plate were co-cultured with NK-92 or primary NK (PBNK) cells in the presence of different chemical drugs at a 96-well plate format. Through our 3D co-culture system, we discovered a small drug, C19, for synergistic NK-mediated cytotoxicity against pancreatic cancer patient-derived cancer spheroids.

**Table S1.** The list of primers used for qRT-PCR analysis.

Primers	Sequence (5'-3')
ALDHA1A1-F	CGCCAGACTTACCTGTCCTA
ALDHA1A1-R	GTCAACATCCTCCTTATCTCCT
CD133-F	ACCAGGTAAGAACCCGGATCAA
CD133-R	CAAGAATTCCGCCTCCTAGCACT
CD24-F	GCTCCTACCCACGCAGATTTAT
CD24-R	AGTTGGAAGTACTCTGGGAGGA
EPCAM-F	CAATGCCAGTGTACTTCAGTTGG
EPCAM-R	GCCATTCATTTCTGCCTTCATCA
TGFβ1-F	TTGTGCGGCAGTGGTTGA
TGFβ1-R	CCGTTGATGTCCACTTGCAG
TGFβ2-F	GGTGCTCTGTGGGTACCTTG
TGFβ2-R	AGGGTCTGTAGAAAGTGGGC
TGFβ3-F	ATCCTTCGGCCAGATGAGC
TGFβ3-R	CCACTCACGCACAGTGTC
TGFβR1-F	GCCGTTTGTATGTGCACCC
TGFβR1-R	GCAATGGTCCTGATTGCAGC
TGFβR2-F	TGCCCCAGCTGTAATAGGAC
TGFβR2-R	TGGAAACTTGACTGCACCGT
TGFβR3-F	GGTTGGCCAGATGGTTATGA
TGFβR3-R	ATTCAGGTCGGGTGAACAG
CXCR3-F	CAGGTGCCCTCTTCAACATCAA
CXCR3-R	TAGAGCTGGGTGGCATGAACTA
CXCR4-F	TCCATTCCTTTGCCTCTTTTGC
CXCR4-R	CAGGGTTCCTTCATGGAGTCAT
CXCR7-F	CACGTCTGCGTCCAACAATGA
CXCR7-R	AATGGAGAAGGGAACGGCAAAG
CXCL10-F	TGCCATTCTGATTTGCTGCCTTAT
CXCL10-R	TGCAGGTACAGCGTACAGTTCT
CXCL11-F	TGCTACAGTTGTTCAAGGCTTCC

CXCL11-R	AGGCTTTCTCAATATCTGCCACTTT
CXCL12-F	GCTTTCTCCAGGTACTCCTGAATC
CXCL12-R	CCAGGTACTCCTGAATCCACTTTAG