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Tex10 Coordinates Epigenetic Control of Super-Enhancer Activity in Pluripotency and Reprogramming

Junjun Ding^{1,3}, Xin Huang^{1,3}, Ningyi Shao⁴, Hongwei Zhou^{1,3}, Dung-Fang Lee^{1,3}, Francesco Faiola^{1,3}, Miguel Fidalgo^{1,3}, Diana Guallar^{1,3}, Arven Saunders^{1,2,3}, Pavel V. Shliaha⁵, Hailong Wang⁶, Avinash Waghray^{1,3}, Dmitri Papatsenko^{1,3}, Carlos Sánchez-Priego^{1,3}, Dan Li^{1,2,3}, Ye Yuan^{1,2,3}, Ihor R. Lemischka^{1,2,3,7}, Li Shen⁴, Kevin Kelley³, Haiteng Deng⁸, Xiaohua Shen⁸, and Jianlong Wang^{1,2,3,#}

¹The Black Family Stem Cell Institute, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, NY 10029, USA

²The Graduate School of Biological Sciences, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, NY 10029, USA

³Department of Developmental and Regenerative Biology, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, NY 10029, USA

⁴Department of Neuroscience, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, NY 10029, USA

⁵Cambridge Centre for Proteomics, Cambridge Systems Biology Centre, University of Cambridge, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge CB2 1QR, UK

⁶Department of Basic medicine, College of medicine, Xiamen University, Xiamen, Fujian Province 361102, China

⁷Department of Pharmacology and Systems Therapeutics, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, NY 10029, USA

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[#]Corresponding author: Jianlong Wang, Ph.D., Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, Black Family Stem Cell Institute, Dept. of Developmental and Regenerative Biology, Atran Building, AB7-10D, 1428 Madison Ave, New York, NY 10029, Tel: 212-241-7425, jianlong.wang@mssm.edu.

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ACCESSION NUMBERS

Tex10 ChIP-seq and RNA-seq data in mouse ESCs have been deposited with the Gene Expression Omnibus under the accession ID (GSE66736).

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Supplemental Information includes Extended Experimental Procedures, six figures and eight tables that can be found with this article online.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

J.D. designed and performed experiments, analyzed data and wrote the manuscript; X.H., N.S., D.P. and L.S. provided bioinformatics support; H.Z. and D.-F. L. helped with human ESC/iPSC assays; F.F., M.F., D.G., A.S., D.L., H.W., A.W., Y.Y. and I.R.L. provided technical assistance, reagents, and helpful discussions; P.V.S. performed the interactome analysis; K.K. helped with early embryo work and generation of knockout mouse model. H.D. and X.S. helped with mass spectrometry; J.W. conceived the project, designed the experiments, analyzed data, prepared and approved the manuscript.

⁸Center for Life Sciences, Tsinghua University School of Medicine, Beijing 100084, China

SUMMARY

Super-enhancers (SEs) are large clusters of transcriptional enhancers that are co-occupied by multiple lineage specific transcription factors driving expression of genes that define cell identity. In embryonic stem cells (ESCs), SEs are highly enriched for the core pluripotency factors Oct4, Sox2, and Nanog. In this study, we sought to dissect the molecular control mechanism of SE activity in pluripotency and reprogramming. Starting from a protein interaction network surrounding Sox2, we identified Tex10 as a key pluripotency factor that plays a functionally significant role in ESC self-renewal, early embryo development, and reprogramming. Tex10 is enriched at SEs in a Sox2-dependent manner and coordinates histone acetylation and DNA demethylation at SEs. Tex10 activity is also important for pluripotency and reprogramming in human cells. Our study therefore highlights Tex10 as a core component of the pluripotency network and sheds light on its role in epigenetic control of SE activity for cell fate determination.

Keywords

pluripotency; histone acetylation; DNA demethylation; eRNA; Sox2; p300; Tet1; Tet2; Wdr18; Las1l

INTRODUCTION

Transcription factors (TFs) regulate tissue specific gene expression programs through interactions with enhancer elements (Buecker et al., 2014). Compared with typical enhancers (TEs), super-enhancers (SEs) are large clusters of transcriptional enhancers that drive expression of genes that define cell identity. In ESCs, SEs are highly enriched for Oct4, Sox2, and Nanog (OSN) (Whyte et al., 2013) and express a group of non-coding RNAs known as eRNAs (Lam et al., 2014), although the mechanisms by which pluripotency factors regulate SE activity and eRNA transcription are not well defined. Enhancer activation requires the presence of multiple lineage-specific TFs and TF-recruited coactivators such as CBP/p300 (Chen et al., 2008), which together help to establish the histone marks of active enhancers such as H3K4me1 and H3K27ac. Active enhancers are also bound by general TFs and RNA polymerase II (Pol II) leading to the production of eRNAs in SEs, and to a less extent, in TEs (Hnisz et al., 2013). The eRNAs are transcribed from Tet-occupied, hypomethylated enhancers (Pulakanti et al., 2013) and are able to mediate gene activation (Lam et al., 2014). It is poorly defined how pluripotency TFs and their associated cofactors may transcriptionally regulate the expression of SE eRNAs to maintain the pluripotent identity of ESCs.

Studies of Nanog (Costa et al., 2013; Wang et al., 2006) and Oct4 (Ding et al., 2012; Pardo et al., 2010; van den Berg et al., 2010) interactomes in ESCs have led to the discovery of many novel pluripotency TFs and associated epigenetic regulators (Huang and Wang, 2014) that play important roles in maintaining pluripotency and promoting reprogramming. In contrast, studies of Sox2-associated protein complexes have only been performed in early differentiating ESCs (Mallanna et al., 2010) or in a transgenic ESC line expressing all four

"Yamanaka reprogramming factors" (Gao et al., 2012), leaving it an open question of whether the *bona fide* Sox2 interactome has been identified. Consequently, additional transcription cofactors and/or epigenetic regulators that are required for Sox2 to target and exert transcriptional regulation of target genes remain to be defined. Whereas Sox2 co-occupies ESC TEs and SEs with Nanog, Oct4, and Mediator in maintaining ESC identity (Hnisz et al., 2013; Kagey et al., 2010; Whyte et al., 2013), it directly interacts only with Nanog (Gagliardi et al., 2013) while relying on DNA for its Oct4 association (Lam et al., 2012). Sox2 binds first to the predominant Sox2/Oct4 co-binding motif, defined as the *Sox-Oct* enhancer, followed by assisted binding of Oct4 during the enhanceosome assembly in ESCs (Chen et al., 2014). Interestingly, endogenous *Sox2* is also hierarchically activated first in the deterministic stage of reprogramming and plays an important role in orchestrating downstream pluripotency gene activation including *Oct4* and *Nanog* during establishment of pluripotency (Buganim et al., 2012; Polo et al., 2012). Therefore, identification of additional Sox2 cofactors and epigenetic regulators that play critical roles in pluripotency and reprogramming will greatly facilitate a better understanding of Sox2-guided enhanceosome assembly in ESCs, and in particular, SE control for the pluripotent cell identity.

We employed immunoprecipitation (IP) for affinity purification of Sox2 protein complexes in ESCs combined with mass spectrometry (MS) to construct an extended Sox2 interactome for identification of such important factors. Here we report our discovery of Tex10 as a *bona fide* Sox2 partner and critical pluripotency factor with a unique mode of action in controlling SE activity via modulating DNA methylation and histone acetylation for stem cell maintenance, somatic cell reprogramming, and early embryogenesis. Specifically, we found that Tex10 is critically required for both maintenance of ESCs and establishment of pluripotency during early embryogenesis and somatic cell reprogramming. Mechanistically, Tex10 recruits the coactivator histone acetyltransferase p300 and cooperates with DNA hydroxylase Tet1 for epigenetic modifications of the SEs associated with pluripotency gene loci. Consequently, H3K27 acetylation and hypomethylation of SEs lead to enhanced eRNA transcription and positive regulation of pluripotency gene expression. Finally, we demonstrate the functional conservation of this key pluripotency factor in both mouse and human pluripotency.

RESULTS

The Sox2 Interactome Identifies Tex10 as an Interacting Partner of Sox2

Following our well-established protocols (Costa et al., 2013; Ding et al., 2012) for affinity purification in mouse ESCs (Figures S1A–E and see Experimental Procedures for detail) and employing an iPAC algorithm for interactome analysis (see Extended Experimental Procedures for detail), we identified 67 high confidence Sox2-interacting proteins (Table S1; Figures 1A and S1F). These contain many TFs, RNA processing factors, protein folding factors, epigenetic regulators and others (Figure S1F). The top 23 proteins as the highest confidence candidates for Sox2 partners are identified with the most stringent cut-off false discovery rate (FDR) and combined cumulative probability (CCP) scores (Figure 1B and see Extended Experimental Procedures). These include factors whose interactions with Sox2 were either previously reported (*e.g.*, Xpo4 (Gontan et al., 2009)) or newly confirmed (*e.g.*,

Chd7; Figure S1G) (shaded grey in Figure 1B). Our Sox2 interactome contains both documented (*e.g.*, NuRD proteins) and potentially novel ESC regulators (see below) that play important roles in pluripotency (Hu and Wade, 2012) and reprogramming (Dos Santos et al., 2014; Rais et al., 2013).

We were particularly interested in the newly identified Sox2 partners Wdr18, Tex10 and Las1L for several reasons. First, all three factors are often co-purified as part of the 5FMC (*five friends of methylated Chtop*) (Fanis et al., 2012), MLL1/MLL (Dou et al., 2005), and Rix (Castle et al., 2012) complexes in other cellular systems, which play such important roles as linking arginine methylation to desumoylation for transcriptional regulation, modifying H3K4 methylation, and controlling ribosome biogenesis and cell cycle regulation through p53, respectively. Cell cycle control has been intrinsically linked with pluripotency and reprogramming (Hindley and Philpott, 2013) and ribosome biogenesis is being recognized for its potential role in controlling pluripotency and reprogramming (Fong et al., 2014) and germline stem cell fate (Zhang et al., 2014). Second, they are all highly enriched in ESCs and are downregulated during embryoid body (EB) differentiation (Figure 1C) or in non-pluripotent cells (Figure S1I). Third, they are all upregulated during the generation of induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) (Figure 1D). Such expression patterns mimic those of the core pluripotency factors Oct4, Sox2, and Nanog (OSN) (Figures 1C–D). Fourth, all three factors interact with Sox2 and Nanog, but less likely with Oct4 (Figures 1E and S1J), which is consistent with them being Sox2 partners and that the association of Sox2 with Nanog is direct (Gagliardi et al., 2013) while that with Oct4 is DNA-dependent (Lam et al., 2012). Taken together, our data and published studies suggest that these three factors may play important roles in controlling pluripotency and reprogramming.

In summary, we have established an extended Sox2 interactome and identified 23 high confidence Sox2 partners that have known or potential roles in controlling pluripotency and reprogramming. Our study thus provides a rich resource for further dissecting Sox2-guided enhanceosome assembly and particularly the dynamic control of SE activity for the pluripotent cell identity in ESC maintenance and iPSC generation.

Tex10 is Required for Self-Renewal and Pluripotency of ESCs

We focused on Tex10 to dissect the dynamic control of Sox2-guided enhanceosome assembly and understand its roles in pluripotency and reprogramming. We first confirmed the endogenous interaction between Tex10 and Sox2 (Figures 1F–G and S1H), and demonstrated that Tex10 is a nuclear protein highly expressed in ESCs (Figure 1H), although mRNA expression levels are also enriched in several adult mouse tissues such as testis, uterus and lung (Figure S1K). We then performed loss-of-function experiments to study the potential roles for Tex10 in ESC maintenance. Downregulation of Tex10 with two independent shRNAs (Figure 2A) resulted in the reduction of total colony number and size with an increased proportion of partially and fully differentiated populations and reduced alkaline phosphatase (AP) activity (Figures 2B–C), indicating the loss of self-renewal. Consistent with this, Tex10-depleted ESCs grew slower than control ESCs (Figure 2D) due to an elongated G1 phase (Figure 2E) and not to apoptosis (Figure S2A). Such a defect in self-renewal can be rescued by ectopic expression of a Tex10 transgene that lacks the

shRNA target site, excluding off-target effects of the shRNAs (Figures S2B–C). Of note, a similar requirement of the core pluripotency factors OSN for efficient G1/S transition in both human (Card et al., 2008; Zhang et al., 2009) and mouse (Schoeftner et al., 2013) ESCs has also been reported, suggesting a potential functional interaction between Tex10 and OSN.

To further understand how Tex10 regulates self-renewal at the molecular level, we performed RNA-seq analyses in control luciferase knockdown and Tex10 knockdown cells, which led to the identification of 1,869 and 2,109 genes that are downregulated and upregulated, respectively, upon Tex10 depletion (Figures 2F and S2D). More importantly, the downregulated and upregulated genes correspond to those that are highly enriched in ESCs and differentiated cells of multiple lineages including the trophoblast lineage, respectively (Figures S2D–F). Supporting that Tex10 may globally intersect with the pluripotency transcription network for ESC maintenance, we found a close correlation of the transcriptomic changes upon Tex10 depletion with those upon depletion of other pluripotency factors including OSN, Esrrb, and Tbx3 (Figure 2G, yellow square). In addition, Tex10 depletion reduced the expression of ESC-enriched genes as well as the targets of OSN (Figure 2H). Finally, the global expression profile induced by Tex10 knockdown is significantly similar to Sox2 depletion (Figure 2I), further confirming that Tex10 not only physically but also functionally interacts with Sox2 in maintaining pluripotency.

Together, our data indicate that Tex10 is a previously unappreciated factor that functionally intersects with the core pluripotency network for optimal self-renewal and pluripotency of ESCs, establishing Tex10 as a key pluripotency factor.

Tex10 is Required for Early Mouse Development

We reasoned that Tex10 as a key pluripotency factor must also be critical for mouse early development. Single cell transcriptomic analysis of early mouse embryos (Tang et al., 2011) revealed that *Tex10* mRNA is upregulated during embryonic development from oocyte to inner cell mass (ICM) stages, although it is also expressed in trophectoderm and slightly downregulated in epiblast (Figure 3A). Established ESCs have further enhanced *Tex10* expression (Figure 3A). Such an expression pattern during early embryo development was further confirmed by LacZ staining of *Tex10* heterozygous mouse embryos harboring a gene trap allele (Figure S3A) at corresponding stages (Figure 3B). Consistent with the biochemical evidence on the Sox2-Tex10 partnership (Figure 1), we also found co-localization of these two proteins in mouse blastocysts (Figure 3C), supporting the physical and functional connection of Tex10 and Sox2 both *in vitro* and *in vivo*.

To directly test the function of Tex10 during early embryo development, we injected siRNA against *Tex10* (si*Tex10*) and non-targeting control (siNon) into wildtype [from mating C57Bl/6J with C57Bl/6JxDBA/2J (B6D2)] mouse zygotes and then cultured those embryos *in vitro*. We found that depletion of Tex10 significantly reduced the embryo development from morula to blastocyst stage (Figures 3D–E and S3B). We confirmed efficient knockdown of Tex10 and also noticed a reduction of Sox2 expression as well as upregulation of *p53* and its direct downstream target *p21* (Figure 3F). A similar effect of

Tex10 depletion on Sox2, p53, and p21 was also observed in ESCs at both the protein (Figure S2G) and transcript (Figures 2F and S2H) levels. Since knockdown of p53 only partially rescues the defects of cell cycle, proliferation, and self-renewal of Tex10-depleted ESCs (Figure S2I–L), we believe that a combined effect of downregulation of pluripotency genes (e.g., *Sox2*) and upregulation of *p53* and *p21* may have contributed to compromised early embryo development.

To further investigate the role of Tex10 during mouse development, we created a *Tex10* knockout mouse model by using *Tex10*^{+/LacZ} ESCs (Figures S3A and C). We successfully obtained heterozygous males and females that are phenotypically normal with a regular lifespan. Among 95 pups generated from matings between heterozygous males and females, we have obtained 25 wildtype and 70 heterozygous *Tex10*^{+/LacZ} mice, but no homozygous mutants (*Tex10*^{LacZ/LacZ}) (Figure 3G), indicating that *Tex10* homozygous pups may have died before birth. We thus performed early embryo analyses by examining 39 decidual swellings obtained at midgestation 7.5 dpc, among which we found 15 empty deciduas, 6 wildtype, and 16 heterozygous embryos, as well as 2 embryos of unknown genotype due to limited material (Figure 3H). These data suggest that *Tex10* knockout is likely early embryonic lethal prior to 7.5 dpc, which is consistent with our siRNA experiment demonstrating the morula to blastocyst arrested phenotype (Figures 3D–E and S3B). To further corroborate this, we attempted to derive ESCs from 3.5 dpc blastocysts obtained from heterozygous matings (Figure S3C). A total of 54 blastocysts were obtained for outgrowth following standard protocol (Meissner et al., 2009), among which 27 colonies were grown out and the other half failed to grow due to technical difficulties and/or presumed mutant consequences. Among the 27 outgrown colonies, 17 were stably established for genotyping (Figures 3I–J) revealing 5 wildtype and 12 heterozygous (Figure 3I) lines of typical ES colony morphology (Figure 3J, the left and middle panels). The remaining 10 initially grew but then could not be further propagated for genotyping and were presumed mutants (Figure 3J, the right panel). These results suggest that *Tex10* null embryos may not develop to the blastocyst stage and/or mutant blastocysts are defective for *in vitro* ICM outgrowth.

Together, our data functionally define Tex10 as a key pluripotency factor that is essential for early development, although the exact cause of early embryonic lethality of *Tex10* knockouts and its potential roles in trophoctoderm (Figures 3A–C) and testis (Figure S1K) remain the subject for future investigation with a conditional null allele.

Tex10 is Required for Efficient Somatic Cell Reprogramming

We explored the potential roles for Tex10 in the establishment of pluripotency during somatic cell reprogramming. We first tested knockdown or ectopic expression of *Tex10* in conventional Yamanaka reprogramming of mouse embryonic fibroblasts (MEFs) (Figure S3D). Like *Sox2*, *Tex10* is activated during late stage of reprogramming (Figure 3K). Consistent with the crucial roles of Sox2 in orchestrating the transcriptional activation hierarchy at this stage (Buganim et al., 2012; Polo et al., 2012), we found that knockdown of *Tex10* (Figure 3L), a close partner of Sox2, also dramatically decreased MEF reprogramming efficiency (Figure 3M). This reprogramming defect upon *Tex10* depletion is

minimally attributed to decreased MEF proliferation (Figures S3E–F), but more likely to a combinatorial effect of compromised mesenchymal-to-epithelial transition (Figures S3H–J) and the reduced reactivation of pluripotency genes during reprogramming (Figure S3K). Conversely, ectopic expression of *Tex10* enhanced the reprogramming efficiency by 6-fold (Figure S3G), although it cannot replace Sox2 in reprogramming (data not shown).

To directly address *Tex10* function in the final stage of reprogramming, we employed the Nanog-driven pre-iPSC reprogramming system (Silva et al., 2008) (Figure S3L). Like *Sox2*, *Tex10* is also activated at the final stage during pre-iPSC reprogramming (Figure S3M). Depletion of *Tex10* reduced Nanog-driven reprogramming efficiency compared with the empty vector control as measured by *Oct4*-GFP positive colony numbers (Figure S3N). Together with the data presented in Figure 2, our study establishes a critical role of *Tex10* for both the maintenance and establishment of pluripotency *in vitro* and *in vivo*.

Tex10 Positively Regulates Super-Enhancer Activity

To understand the molecular mechanisms by which *Tex10* regulates pluripotency, we identified global genomic targets of *Tex10* by ChIP-seq in ESCs ectopically expressing 3xFLAG tagged *Tex10*. Owing to the lack of a ChIP-grade *Tex10* antibody, FLAG antibody-based ChIP was performed and specific enrichment of *Tex10* in FLAG ChIPed samples was confirmed by *Tex10* western blot, validating the FLAG ChIP for detecting *Tex10* binding DNA fragments (Figure S4A). A total of 5,189 *Tex10* binding regions (peaks) were identified, among which 47.8%, 32.3%, and 19.9% of peaks are localized in promoters, intergenic regions and gene bodies, respectively (Figure 4A). Consistent with the high percentage of promoter occupancy, *Tex10* peaks are enriched at transcription start sites (TSS) (Figure S4B). Since *Tex10* is physically associated with *Sox2*, as expected, we found that 46% of *Tex10* targets are also bound by *Sox2* (Figure S4C) and that the *Tex10* binding motif (*de novo*) is significantly similar to the *Sox2* binding consensus motif (Figure S4D; p-value=10⁻²³⁸). Such a strong correlation of genomic localization with *Sox2* was shared by other pluripotency factors such as *Nanog*, *Oct4*, *Med1/12*, and *Esrrb* (Figure S4E). We also found *Tex10* clustered together with *OSN* and *Med1/12* at a global level in target gene occupancy (Figure S4F, red and green rectangles). Combined with the RNA-seq data (Figure 2F), we found that *Tex10* knockdown significantly reduced the expression of the genes within 5 kb of *Tex10* binding regions (Figure S4G), indicating that *Tex10* is a positive regulator of gene expression in ESCs. These results strongly support that *Tex10* is an integral part of the core pluripotency network encompassing *OSN* that governs the ESC identity.

Active ESC enhancers are often co-occupied by multiple core pluripotency factors including *OSN*, and are marked with high levels of H3K4me1 and H3K27ac in combination with a low level of H3K4me3 (Creyghton et al., 2010; Kagey et al., 2010). Interestingly, we found that *Tex10* binding regions are also enriched for *OSN* (Figure 4B) as well as the active enhancer marks (H3K4me1 and H3K27Ac) (Figure 4C), suggesting that *Tex10*, as a close partner of *Sox2*, may play a role in *Sox2*-guided enhanceosome assembly regulating enhancer activity in ESCs. We selected the enhancers by these histone marks and beyond 3 kb of TSS, revealing that *Tex10* is indeed enriched at enhancer regions (Figure 4D). While

Tex10-only binding regions are low in H3K4me1 (Figure 4E; blue bars) and high in H3K27ac (Figure 4E; yellow bars), Tex10 and Sox2 co-binding regions are greatly enriched for the combination of both marks (H3K4me1+H3K27ac) (Figure 4E, red bars), suggesting a Sox2-dependent function of Tex10 in regulating ESC enhancer activity (see below). We sorted Tex10 peaks by H3K4me1 and H3K4me3 to distinguish enhancers from promoters, and found that the majority of Tex10 enhancers and few Tex10 promoters are targeted by OSN (Figures 4F and S4H), reinforcing the notion that Tex10 may contribute to Sox2 functions in regulating ESC-specific enhancers. Consistent with this, the genes near Tex10 enhancers have higher expression than non-enhancer-associated genes or the genes near enhancers regardless of Tex10 binding (Figure S4I), and Tex10 knockdown reduced the expression of the majority of Tex10 enhancer-associated genes (Figure S4J).

ESC super-enhancers (SEs) are part of ESC-specific enhancers and have larger size, increased ability to activate transcription, and heightened sensitivity to perturbation than TEs. They are also enriched for Med1 and cell type specific TFs, such as OSN in ESCs (Whyte et al., 2013). The close relationship of Tex10 with OSN and Med1 in target gene occupancy (Figures 4F and S4F) prompted us to investigate potential functions of Tex10 in regulating SE activity. Previous studies identified 231 SEs according to the density of Med1 in ESCs (Whyte et al., 2013). We found that 4,515 (87%) of Tex10 binding peaks, including the majority of promoters and enhancers, are also occupied by Med1 (Figures 4F–G and S4K). Like Med1, Tex10 is also enriched in the regions of ESC SEs (Figures 4H–I) and has a significantly stronger density in SEs than in TEs (Figures 4J–L and S4M). Correspondingly, comparison of the expression changes between SE- and TE-associated genes after Tex10 knockdown revealed that SE-associated genes are more sensitive to Tex10 depletion than TE-associated genes (Figure S4L). To address how Tex10 may regulate the expression of SE-associated genes, we selected genes closest to the SEs and examined their expression using RNA-seq data (Figure 2F). Predictably, we observed that expression of most Tex10 SE-associated genes were downregulated after Tex10 knockdown (Figure 4M). We further employed a luciferase reporter assay whereby the luciferase gene is driven by the ESC-specific enhancer within the well-known SE in the *Nanog* locus, and confirmed that Tex10 (T) can further enhance Oct4 and Sox2 (OS)-mediated enhancer activity (Figure S4M). Together our data establish Tex10 as a positive regulator of SE activity in ESCs.

Tex10 Regulates Epigenetic Modifications and eRNA Transcription of Super-Enhancers

We explored molecular mechanisms by which Tex10 positively controls SE activity. Enhancer elements are pre-marked with H3K4me1 followed by H3K27ac modification to generate an open chromatin conformation for multi-factor co-occupancy (Calo and Wysocka, 2013). Although Tex10 was reported to be co-purified with MLL1/MLL complex in HeLa cells (Dou et al., 2005), we did not identify MLL components in the Tex10 interactome in ESCs (data not shown). In addition, we detected neither global expression (Figure 5A) nor locus-specific H3K4me1 enrichment change upon Tex10 depletion (data not shown) within the time window when ESCs still maintained undifferentiated morphology and had minimal alteration of Oct4 and Sox2 expression under reduced Tex10 expression (Figure S5A). In contrast, we found that Tex10 depletion reduced enrichment of H3K27ac

modifications in the SE regions of *Oct4*, *Nanog*, and *Esrrb* loci (Figure 5B) in the presence of overall normal expression levels of H3K27ac (Figure 5A), suggesting that Tex10 may regulate SE activity mainly through modulating histone acetylation. In line with this, we found that p300, the H3K27 acetyltransferase that is enriched at enhancer regions in ESCs (Chen et al., 2008), is also highly enriched at Tex10 binding regions (Figure 5C), and that depletion of Tex10 caused reduced binding of p300 to the SEs of *Nanog*, *Oct4* and *Esrrb* loci (Figure 5D) without altering overall p300 expression (Figure 5A). Our data suggest that Tex10 may recruit p300 to the enhancer regions to establish H3K27 acetylation and regulate SE activity.

To further understand how Tex10-mediated p300 action on H3K27 acetylation and the resulting open chromatin of ESC enhancers may lead to target gene regulation, we asked what other Tex10 cofactors and/or epigenetic regulators may be recruited by Tex10 to ESC enhancers for transcriptional activation of enhancer-associated genes. To this end, we biochemically purified Tex10-interacting proteins in ESCs using the SILAC (stable isotope labeling by amino acids in cell culture) system coupled with IP-MS (see Extended Experimental Procedures for detail) and identified both Tet1 and Tet2 as partners of Tex10 (Figures S5B–C). Further purification of Tet1 protein complexes using SILAC IP-MS in ESCs also identified Tex10 (Figure S5D). The Tex10-Tet1 interaction was further confirmed by co-IP (Figure 5E). Like Tet1 (Wu et al., 2011), Tex10 peaks are also highly enriched for CpG islands (Figure S5E). Interestingly, Tet1 is also abundant in SE regions (Figure 5F), and Tex10, Sox2 and Tet1 co-binding targets are more enriched at enhancers than promoters and other regions (Figure S5F). Furthermore, we found that ~75% of Tex10 binding peaks are also occupied by Tet1 (Figure S5G), supporting the physical and functional connection between Tex10 and Tet1.

SEs are reported to be hypomethylated with Tet1 occupancy (Pulakanti et al., 2013) and the enrichment of active enhancer histone marks and DNA methylation density are anti-correlated (Stadler et al., 2011). Currently, whether and how Tet1 may mediate enhancer DNA demethylation and contribute to SE activity in ESCs are not well defined. We thus explored the possibility that Tet1 may cooperate with Tex10 and Sox2 in modulating the DNA methylation status of enhancer elements. We examined the levels of methylcytosine (5mC) and hydroxymethylcytosine (5hmC) at Tex10 peaks, and found that Tex10 peaks are enriched for Tet1 but are absent of 5hmC and 5mC (Figure S5H). We also examined the levels of 5mC and 5hmC at Tet1 peaks sorted by Tex10 intensity and again found that Tex10 peaks are absent of 5hmC and 5mC (Figure 5G). These data indicate that Tex10 bound DNA regions are unmethylated. Interestingly, we noticed that Sox2 and Tet1 shared peaks are enriched for either Tex10 or 5hmC (Figure S5I) and that Tet1 binding SEs and TEs have significantly lower 5mC and 5hmC when they are also targeted by Tex10 (Figure 5H). Depletion of Tet proteins significantly induced 5mC accumulations at Tet1/Tex10 co-binding SE and TE regions (Figure 5I). These analyses suggest that Tex10 may induce active DNA demethylation through facilitating DNA demethylase Tet1 accessibility to Tex10/Sox2 co-bound targets. Supporting this, we found that depletion of Tex10 reduced the binding of Tet1, whose expression is maintained within the time window tested (Figure S5A), to the SE regions of *Oct4* and *Esrrb* loci (Figure 5J) with a concomitant increase in

5mC enrichment at the same regions (Figure 5K). Together, these results establish a Tex10-dependent function of Tet1 in binding to Tex10-occupied SEs and modulating methylation status of SEs.

To correlate DNA demethylation of SEs with their transcriptional activities, we examined transcription of enhancer RNAs (eRNAs) associated with SEs based on findings that 1) eRNAs are transcribed in SEs (Hnisz et al., 2013); 2) eRNAs arise from hypomethylated, Tet1-occupied genomic regions (Pulakanti et al., 2013); and 3) eRNAs promote associated mRNA transcription by establishing chromatin accessibility and tethering enhancer activity to the transcriptional apparatus (Mousavi et al., 2013). We first examined transcription of SE-associated eRNAs before and after Tex10 knockdown. We found that Tex10 knockdown decreased the expression of a number of previously reported eRNAs in ESCs (Pulakanti et al., 2013) including those associated with *Oct4* and *Nanog* (Figures 5L and S5J). Conversely, ectopic expression of Tex10 increased transcription of those eRNAs (Figures 5M and S5K).

Collectively, our studies establish Tex10 as a major player in the ESC enhanceosome assembly that regulates the SE activity and eRNA transcription by cooperating with p300 and Tet1 to control the histone acetylation and DNA hypomethylation of SEs, respectively. Our results on Tet1's participation in the Sox2-guided ESC enhanceosome assembly via its Tex10 association sheds new light on our understanding of Tet proteins in modulating enhancer activity in ESCs (Hon et al., 2014; Lu et al., 2014) (see more in Discussion).

Sox2 Directs Tex10 to a Subset of Shared ESC-Specific Super-Enhancers

As Tex10 and Sox2 physically interact (Figure 1) and share many targets at ESC specific enhancer regions (Figure 6A), and a Sox2-dependent function of Tex10 in establishing both active enhancer marks (H3K4me1+H3K27ac) was observed (Figure 4E), we hypothesized that Sox2 may recruit Tex10 to these enhancers. To test this hypothesis, we created an ESC line (2TST10) by introducing a constitutive 3xFLAG tagged Tex10 transgene into the 2TS22C ESC line (Masui et al., 2007) that has both endogenous Sox2 alleles removed and replaced by a doxycycline (Dox) suppressible Sox2 transgene for stem cell maintenance (Figure 6B). After 14 hours of Dox treatment, Sox2 protein was depleted to a low level, whereas Oct4 and Nanog are maintained together with constitutive FLAG-tagged Tex10 protein expression (Figure 6C). ChIP-qPCR was performed to analyze Tex10 binding to the shared target loci upon Dox treatment (*i.e.*, depletion of Sox2), which revealed that Tex10 binding decreased significantly after Dox treatment at *Nanog*, *Oct4*, and *Sox2* loci (Figures 6D–F) despite its normal expression (Figure 6C). In contrast, Tex10 binding is not affected by Sox2 depletion in the Tex10-only genomic loci (Figures S6A–C). These data indicate that Sox2 directs Tex10 to a subset of shared ESC SEs in controlling their activities.

Functional Conservation of Human TEX10 in Pluripotency and Reprogramming

To further address whether Tex10's functions in pluripotency and reprogramming are evolutionally conserved, we performed loss-of-function studies of human TEX10 on hESC maintenance and human iPSC (hiPSC) generation. Using independent shRNAs targeting human *TEX10* (Figure 7A), we found that TEX10 depletion led to differentiation of hESCs

with reduced AP staining (Figure 7B) and concomitant downregulation of pluripotency genes *NANOG*, *OCT4*, *SOX2*, and *TERT1*, and upregulation of lineage specific genes (Figure 7C). These data demonstrate a critical role of TEX10 for hESC maintenance. To test whether TEX10 is also important for establishment of human pluripotency, we performed human iPSC generation from BJ cells with conventional Yamanaka reprogramming factors. We found that TEX10 depletion resulted in a decreased reprogramming efficiency (Figure 7D) with minimal effects on BJ cell proliferation (Figure 7E), supporting the functional significance of human TEX10 in the establishment of human pluripotency.

Together these data establish the evolutionally conserved function of Tex10/TEX10 in controlling both stem cell pluripotency and somatic cell reprogramming.

DISCUSSION

Our study uncovered Sox2-dependent functions of Tex10 in controlling ESC specific enhancer and particularly SE activity through recruitment of the histone acetyltransferase p300 and the DNA demethylase Tet1 for the transcriptional regulation of SE-associated eRNA and mRNA expression. Although there likely exist Sox2-independent functions of Tex10 in promoter regulation (Figures 4A and S4H), we primarily focused on dissecting potential contribution of Tex10 to Sox2-guided enhanceosome assembly and in particular, SEs, due to their prominent roles in maintaining pluripotency. We have provided multiple lines of evidence integrating Tex10 into the core pluripotency network (Figure 6G) for epigenetic control of SE activity and ESC identity by orchestrating histone H3K27 acetylation, DNA demethylation, and eRNA transcription, which are succinctly summarized in a model (Figure 6H) and further discussed below.

First, our transcriptome (Figure 2) and genomic binding (Figures 4 and S4) correlation analyses together with the physical association (Figure 1) between Tex10 and other pluripotency factors position Tex10 in the center of the previously defined OSN triumvirate regulatory loop controlling pluripotency (Kim et al., 2008) (Figure 6G).

Second, while ectopic Oct4 and Sox2 can modestly activate the *Nanog* enhancer in HEK 293T cells devoid of endogenous Oct4 and Sox2, a further activation effect can be achieved when Tex10 is combined with Oct4 and Sox2 (Figure S4M). Our data indicate that Tex10 may function as an Oct4/Sox2 coactivator by recruiting p300 to the SEs for induction of H3K27ac (Figures S5A–D), which leads to activated pluripotency gene expression in ESCs.

Third, we established Tex10 function in regulating enhancer activity through Tet1-mediated DNA demethylation. Studies have suggested that Tet1 and Tet2 have distinct roles in controlling enhancer activity in ESCs (Hon et al., 2014; Huang et al., 2014). It was also reported that active and initiated enhancers are predominantly hypermethylated with concomitant transcriptional downregulation of enhancer-associated genes in *Tet* TKO ESCs (Lu et al., 2014). While 5hmC is abundant at both poised and active enhancers in ESCs (Yu et al., 2012), our findings led us to hypothesize that recruitment of Tet1 by Tex10 may facilitate active DNA demethylation of SEs. Supporting this hypothesis, our data show that Tex10 depletion reduces Tet1 binding and induces 5mC enrichment in *Oct4* and *Esrrb*

enhancers in undifferentiated ESCs (Figures 5J–K). However, we cannot exclude the possible contribution of Tet2 to the observed SE hypomethylation due to the association of Tet2 with Tex10 (Figures S5B–C). Nevertheless, hypermethylation of enhancer regions alone cannot account for the loss of self-renewal and differentiation of *Tex10*-depleted ESCs (Figures 2, S2 and 7) as *Tet* TKO ESCs retain ESC characteristics (Dawlaty et al., 2014; Lu et al., 2014). Rather, our study highlights the significant role of Tex10, as a newly discovered core pluripotency factor, in orchestrating multiple epigenetic regulatory events that together control enhancer activity and pluripotent cell identity. Thus, depletion of Tex10 can lead to enhancer decommissioning through a combined action of loss of H3K27 acetylation and DNA hypermethylation, and consequently, to the derailment of the pluripotency program.

Fourth, our study identifies a critical component of the enhanceosome assembly in ESCs, namely the Sox2-Tex10-Tet1 triumvirate, that may directly contribute to the open chromatin and hypomethylation status of SEs leading to active transcription of eRNAs and mRNAs. Tex10 is a structured protein containing an Armadillo-type fold, an Armadillo-like helical, and a type 2 HEAT domain, which can be the interface for protein, DNA and RNA binding. Such a unique structure of Tex10 may have endowed this key pluripotency factor with versatile functions in orchestrating histone acetylation, DNA demethylation, and eRNA regulation to control SE activity and pluripotent cell identity. Dissection of the structure-function relationship of Tex10 in ESCs and during reprogramming is warranted for future investigation.

Finally, the evolutionally conserved function in pluripotency and reprogramming (Figure 7) further consolidates the status of Tex10/TEX10 as a newly joined key player in the core pluripotency network, although the potential caveat exists that the proliferation defect of its depletion may have partly contributed to the compromised pluripotency and reprogramming. Future studies toward dissecting the mechanistic action of TEX10 in human cells should shed new light on human pluripotency and provide additional means to enhance optimal maintenance/derivation of hESCs/hiPSCs for therapeutic application and regenerative medicine.

EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES

Affinity Purification of Sox2 Protein Complexes in ESCs

The ESC lines of J1, BirA (containing BirA-V5 transgene) and Sox2#7 (containing ^{FLBIO}Sox2 and BirA-V5 transgene) were expanded to five large square dishes (245 × 245 mm), and were used to prepare nuclear extracts as previously described (Ding et al., 2012). Three independent streptavidin (SA) and one FLAG immunoprecipitations (IP) followed by mass spectrometry (MS) identification were performed as described (Costa et al., 2013; Ding et al., 2012) to identify *bona fide* Sox2-interacting proteins in ESCs. To further improve the quality of the interactome, we also performed endogenous Sox2 antibody-based IP in wildtype J1 ESCs followed by MS identification. Details are given in the Extended Experimental Procedures.

Generation of Tex10 Knockout Mouse Model

A ESC clone Tex10_AB8 harboring a lacZ knockin cassette at the Tex10 locus resulting in a knockout allele was obtained from KOMP Repository Knockout Mouse Project. To generate chimeric embryos, 10–12 Tex10 heterozygous ESCs were injected in to Balb/c (albino) E3.5 wild-type blastocysts and surgically implanted into 2.5 d.p.c. pseudo-pregnant Swiss Webster female mice following standard procedures. The chimeras with >50% black coat color were mated with C57Bl/6N wild-type mice to test germline transmission. Details for genotyping, staged embryo analysis, and ESC derivation are given in the Extended Experimental Procedures.

Mouse Embryo Collection and Microinjection

The embryo experiments were performed as previously described (Wang et al., 2014) with modifications described in the Extended Experimental Procedures.

Chromatin Immunoprecipitation (ChIP) Coupled with Quantitative Real-Time PCR (ChIP-qPCR)

ChIP was performed as previously described (Lee et al., 2006).

Reprogramming Assays in Adult Neural Stem (NS) and MEF Cells

Reprogramming was performed as previously described (Costa et al., 2013).

Additional experimental procedures are provided as Extended Experimental Procedures.

Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Interactome analysis highlights Tex10 as a binding partner of Sox2
- Tex10 is required for maintenance and establishment of pluripotency
- Tex10 regulates Super-Enhancer activity via epigenetic modifications
- Sox2 targets Tex10 to ESC-specific Super-Enhancers

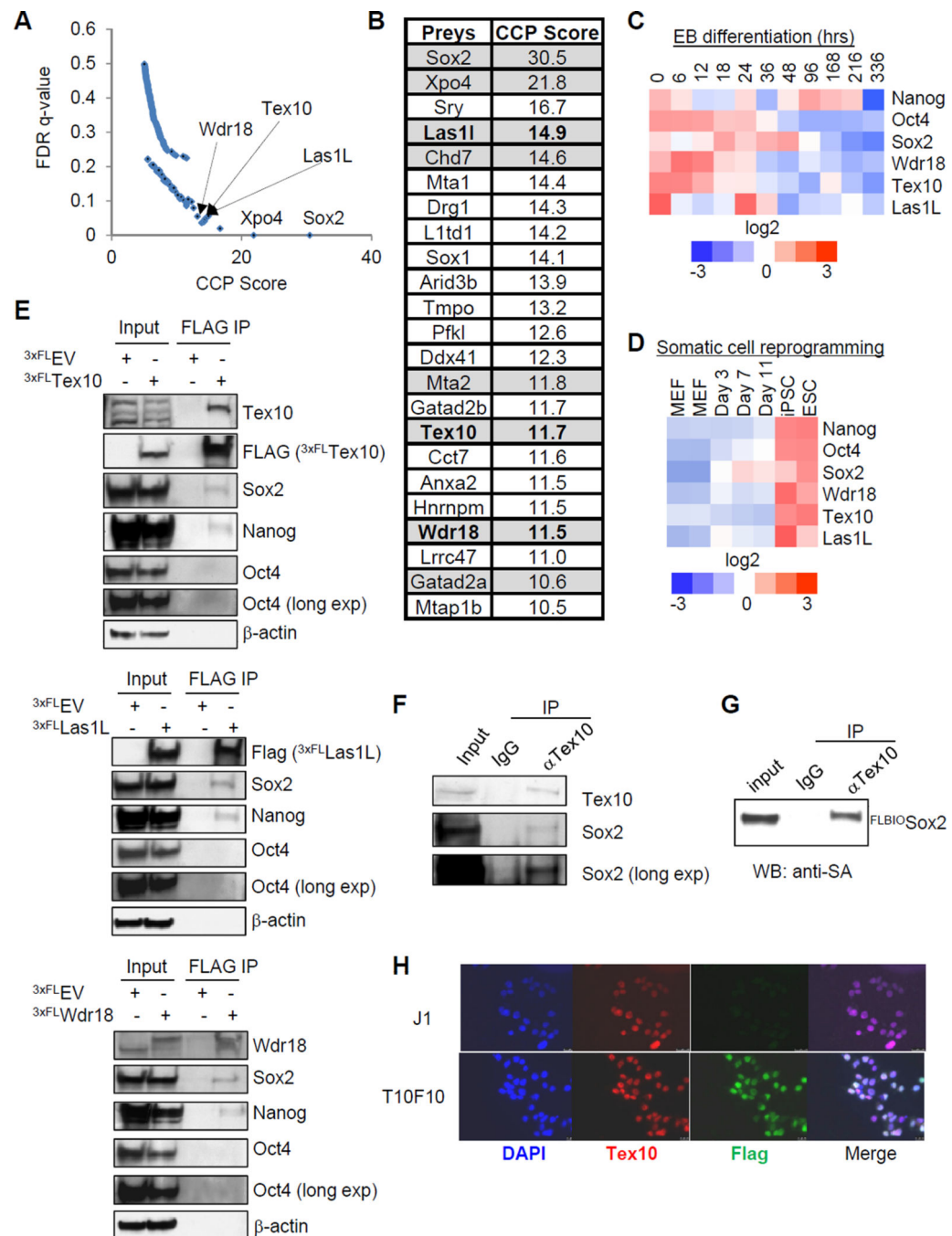


Figure 1. Identification of Wdr18, Tex10, and Las1L as Novel Partners of Sox2. See also Figure S1

(A) All proteins (one dot shows one protein) are shown by combined cumulative probability (CCP) scores and FDR q-values.

(B) List of 23 preys with highest CCP scores. The proteins were selected by cut-off of q-value <0.10 and CCP >10.5. Validated interactions by a previous study (Gao et al., 2012) or in this study by IP/coIP are shaded in grey. Wdr18, Tex10, and Las1L are in bold text.

(C) Gene expression of Wdr18, Tex10, and Las1L during EB differentiation. Microarray data are from GSE3749.

- (D) Gene expression of Wdr18, Tex10, and Las1L during somatic cell reprogramming. Microarray data are from GSE19023.
- (E) Validation of physical associations of Wdr18, Tex10, and Las1L with Oct4, Sox2 and Nanog by coIP in J1 ESCs.
- (F) Validation of the endogenous interaction between Sox2 and Tex10 by Tex10 antibody-based IP in CCE ESCs.
- (G) Validation of the Sox2-Tex10 interaction by Tex10 antibody-based IP in ESCs expressing the *FLBIO*Sox2 transgene.
- (H) Immunofluorescence staining of Tex10 (red) and FLAG (green) in J1 and T10F10 (J1 with ectopic ^{3xFL}Tex10 expression) ESCs. Cell nuclei were counter stained with DAPI (blue).

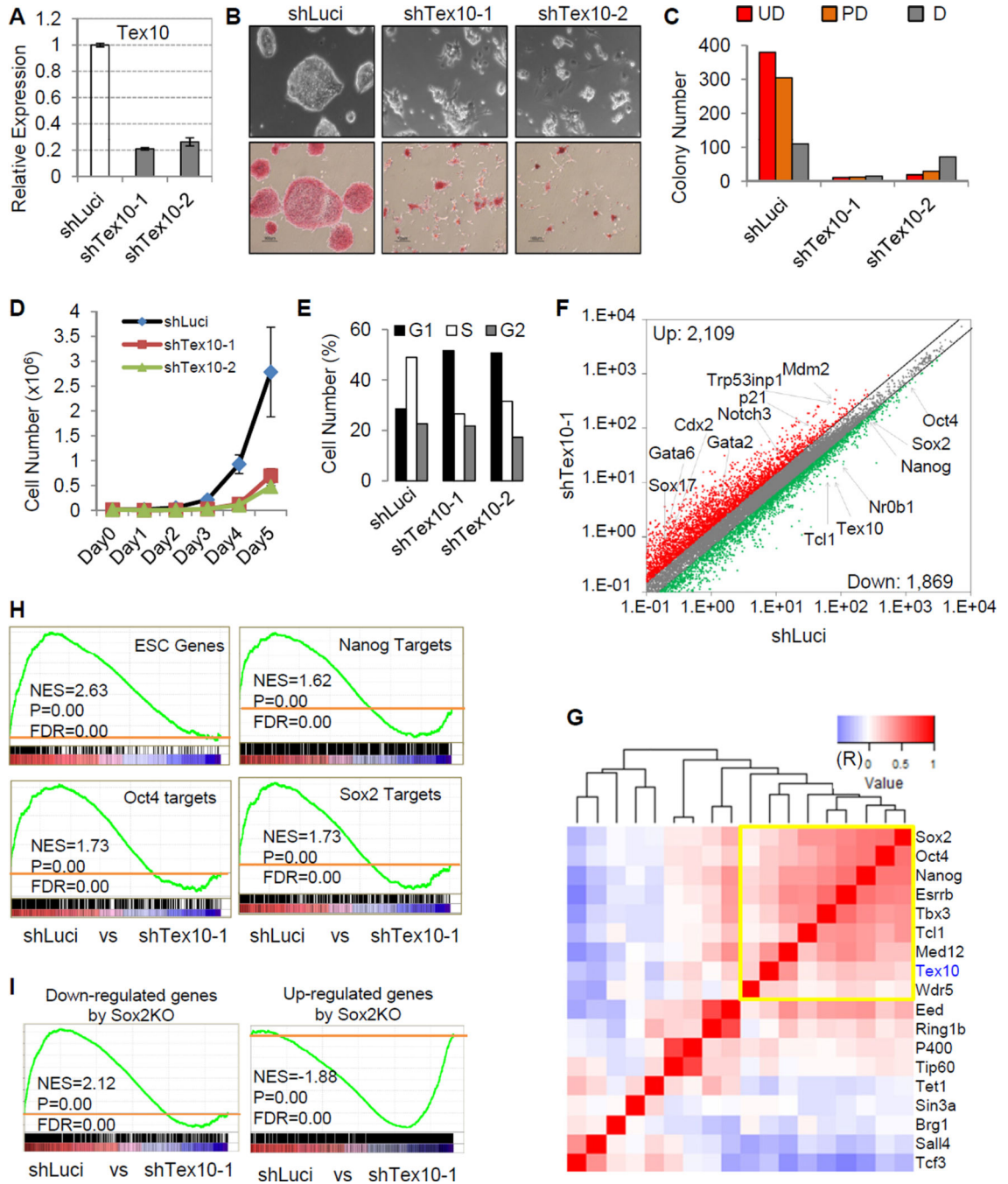


Figure 2. *Tex10* is Required for ESC Maintenance. See also Figure S2

(A) Quantitative PCR analysis of *Tex10* expression after 4 days of *Tex10* knockdown. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM (n=3).

(B) Morphology of *Tex10* knockdown ESCs with (bottom) or without AP staining (top).

(C) Colony formation assay for ESCs with luciferase (*Luci*) knockdown or *Tex10* knockdown. Individual colonies were stained for AP activity and scored into three categories (uniformly undifferentiated (UD), partially differentiated or mixed (PD), and differentiated (D)) as indicated.

- (D) Growth curve analysis of Tex10-depleted ESCs. Luciferase knockdown (shLuci) serves as a control. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM (n=3).
- (E) Cell cycle analysis of Tex10-depleted ESCs. Luciferase knockdown (shLuci) serves as a control.
- (F) Scatter plot of the RNA-Seq expression data from luciferase and Tex10 knockdown ESCs.
- (G) Hierarchical clustering of pluripotency factors based on transcriptome changes upon depletion of each individual factor. The scale represents a Pearson correlation coefficient (R).
- (H) Gene set enrichment analysis of the RNA-Seq data from luciferase and Tex10 knockdown ESCs. Sets of the ESC-enriched genes (Ben-Porath et al., 2008) and the targets of Nanog, Sox2, and Oct4 (Ang et al., 2011; Lee et al., 2012) are used.
- (I) Gene set enrichment analysis of the RNA-Seq data from luciferase and Tex10 knockdown ESCs. Sets of the down- and up-regulated genes at 72 hrs after Sox2 knockout (GSE5895) are used.

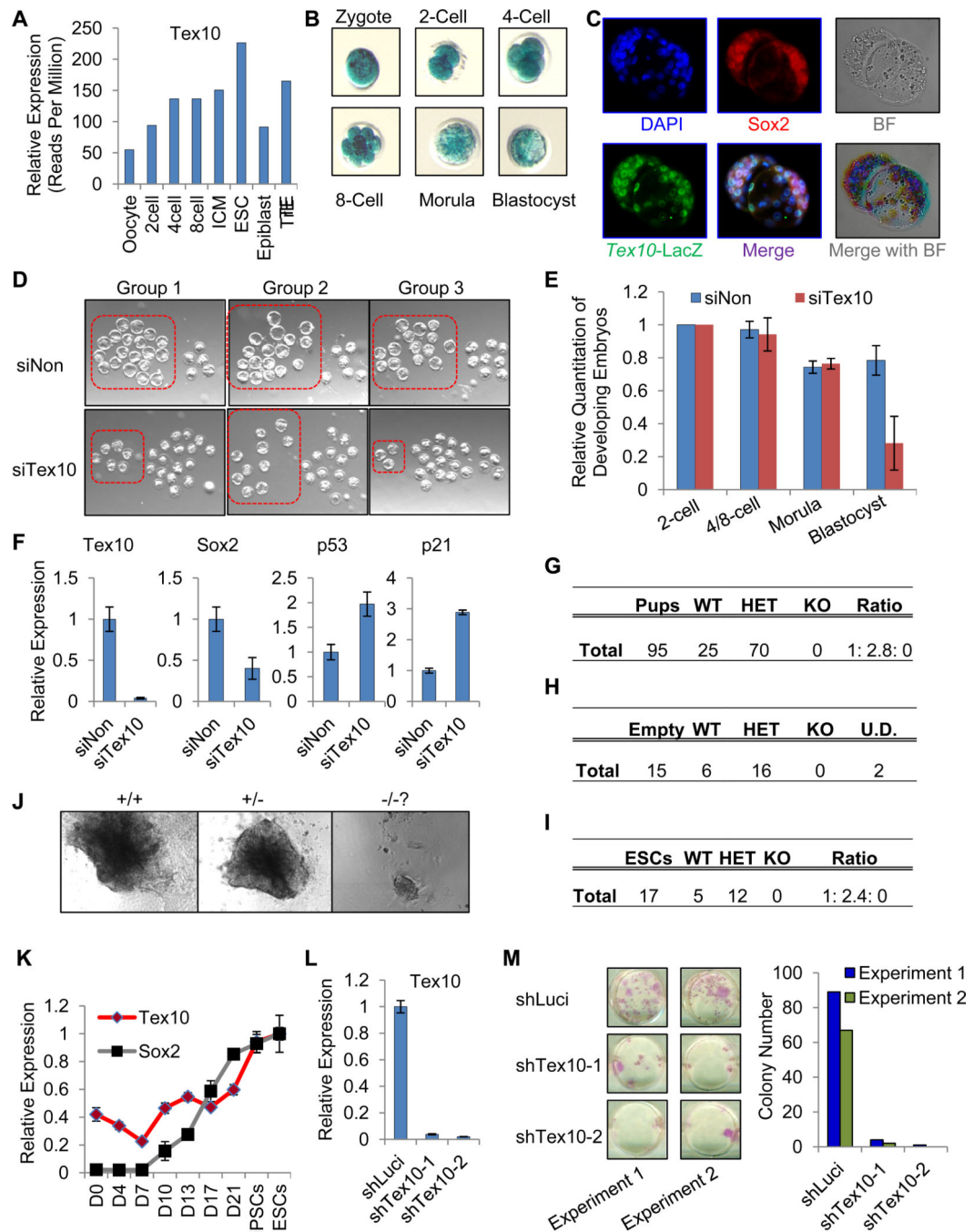


Figure 3. *Tex10* Plays Critical Roles in the Establishment of Pluripotency *In Vivo* and *In Vitro*.
See also Figure S3

(A) *Tex10* expression during early embryonic development based on published dataset (GSE22182). ICM, inner cell mass. TrE, Trophectoderm.

(B) X-gal staining of early embryos. The gene trap allele of *Tex10* expressing LacZ was depicted in Figure S3A.

- (C) Immunofluorescence staining of LacZ (driven by the *Tex10* promoter) (green) and Sox2 (red) in two overlapping blastocysts. Cell nuclei were counter stained with DAPI (blue). ICM is encircled with a dotted line for each blastocyst.
- (D) Effect of *Tex10* knockdown on blastocyst development. Zygotes were arbitrarily separated into three groups and processed in parallel for siRNA treatments and morphological examinations. Morphology of embryos 4.5 days after siRNA injection were shown. The normal developing blastocysts were shown in red rectangles.
- (E) Relative quantitation of normal embryos at each developmental stage. Values were normalized to two-cell stage and plotted as mean \pm SEM from three independent groups shown in (D).
- (F) Gene expression analysis by RT-qPCR in the si*Tex10*-injected morulas relative to siNT controls. Expression is normalized by *Gapdh* and data are presented as mean \pm SEM (n=3).
- (G) Table summarizing the live born litter and Mendelian ratio of mice from *Tex10*^{+/-} \times *Tex10*^{+/-} matings.
- (H) Table summarizing 7.5 dpc embryos from *Tex10*^{+/-} \times *Tex10*^{+/-} matings. U.D., undetermined.
- (I) Table summarizing genotypes and Mendelian ratio of established ESC lines from outgrowth of blastocysts derived from *Tex10*^{+/-} \times *Tex10*^{+/-} matings.
- (J) Morphology of established ESCs as summarized in (I).
- (K) Expression of *Tex10* and *Sox2* during MEF reprogramming. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM (n=3).
- (L) Knockdown efficiency of *Tex10* shRNA in MEFs.
- (M) Compromised reprogramming efficiency of MEFs upon *Tex10* depletion compared with luciferase knockdown. AP staining (left) and quantitation (right) of AP positive colony numbers from two independent experiments are shown.

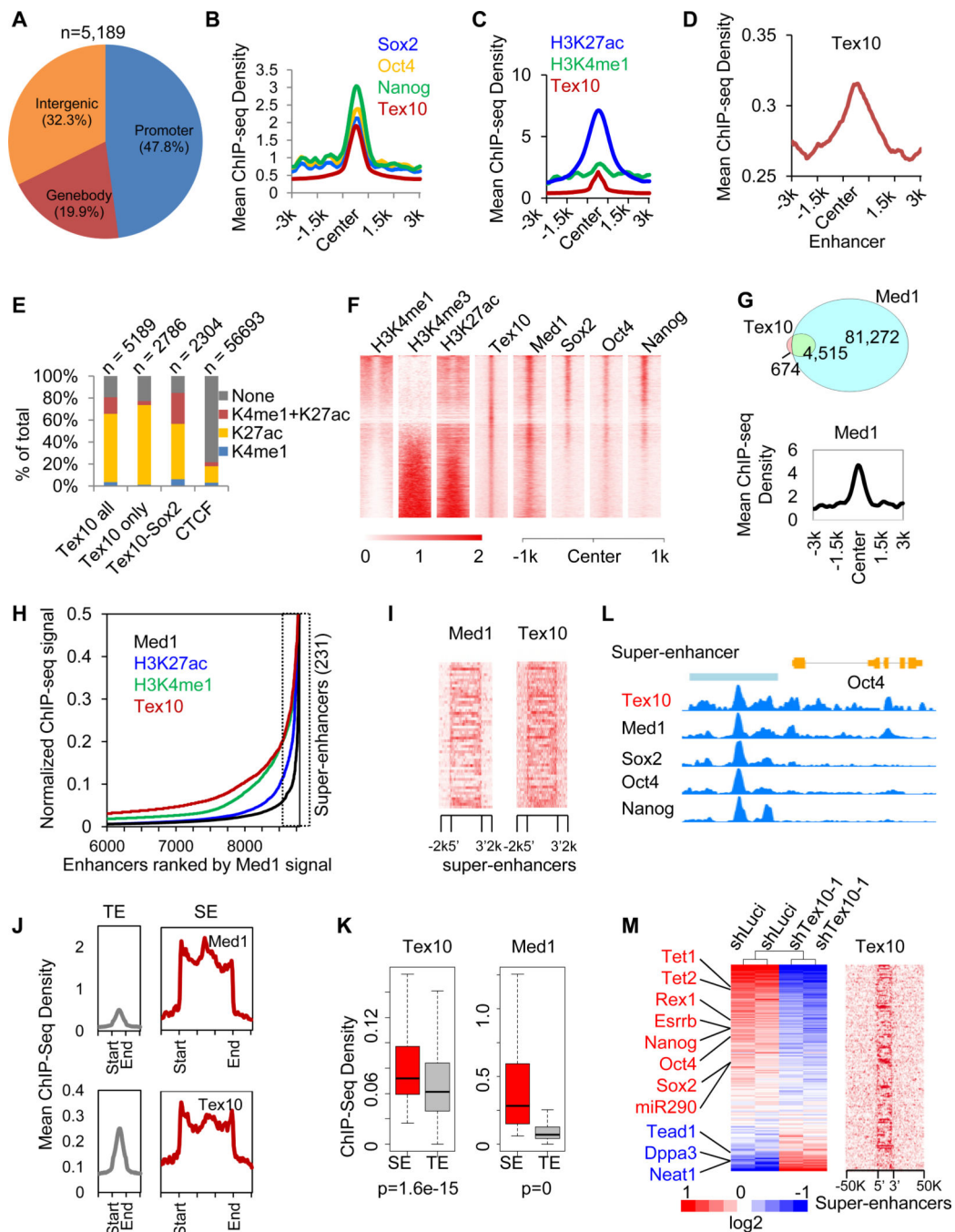


Figure 4. Tex10 Positively Regulates SE Activity with Sox2 in ESCs. See also Figure S4

(A) Distribution of Tex10 binding sites at promoter (–3 to +3 kb), gene body, and intergenic regions.

(B) Average ChIP-seq read density of Tex10, Sox2, Oct4, and Nanog near the Tex10 peak center.

(C) Average ChIP-seq read density of Tex10, H3K4me1, and H3K27ac near the Tex10 peak center.

(D) Tex10 binding regions are enriched for enhancers.

(E) Histograms showing percentage of genomic regions in ESC enhancer and Tex10 (only or shared with Sox2), CTCF ChIP-Seq peaks overlapping with H3K4me1 (K4me1), H3K27ac (K27ac), or both (K4me1+K27ac) peaks.

(F) Heatmaps of Tex10 binding loci are sorted by the enhancer mark H3K4me1 and the active promoter mark H3K4me3. H3K27ac is an active mark for both enhancers or promoters. ESC-specific enhancers are co-bound by Sox2, Oct4, Nanog, and Med1.

(G) Tex10 shares majority of its targets with Med1.

(H) Distribution of Tex10, Med1, H3K4me1, and H3K27ac normalized ChIP-Seq density across a subset of 8,794 ESC enhancers. For each ChIP-Seq data, the plot was normalized by dividing the ChIP-seq signals by the maximum signals individually, and sorted by an ascending order.

(I) The heatmap of Tex10 and Med1 intensity at 231 ESC SEs.

(J) The heatmap of Med1 and Tex10 both show they are enriched in SE regions.

(K) Box plot of Tex10 and Med1 ChIP-Seq density (reads per million reads per base) at the SE and TE regions. Box plot whiskers extend to 1.5x the interquartile range. P-values were calculated using a two-tailed t test

(L) ChIP-seq binding profiles (reads per million per base pair) for the Tex10 and ESC TFs Oct4, Sox2, and Nanog (OSN) and Med1 at the Oct4 loci in ESCs. Gene models are depicted above the binding profiles. SE bar and scale bar are depicted above the binding profiles.

(M) Relative expression of SE-associated genes in Tex10-depleted ESCs compared with luciferase knockdown ESCs. The genes that are closest to SEs were selected.

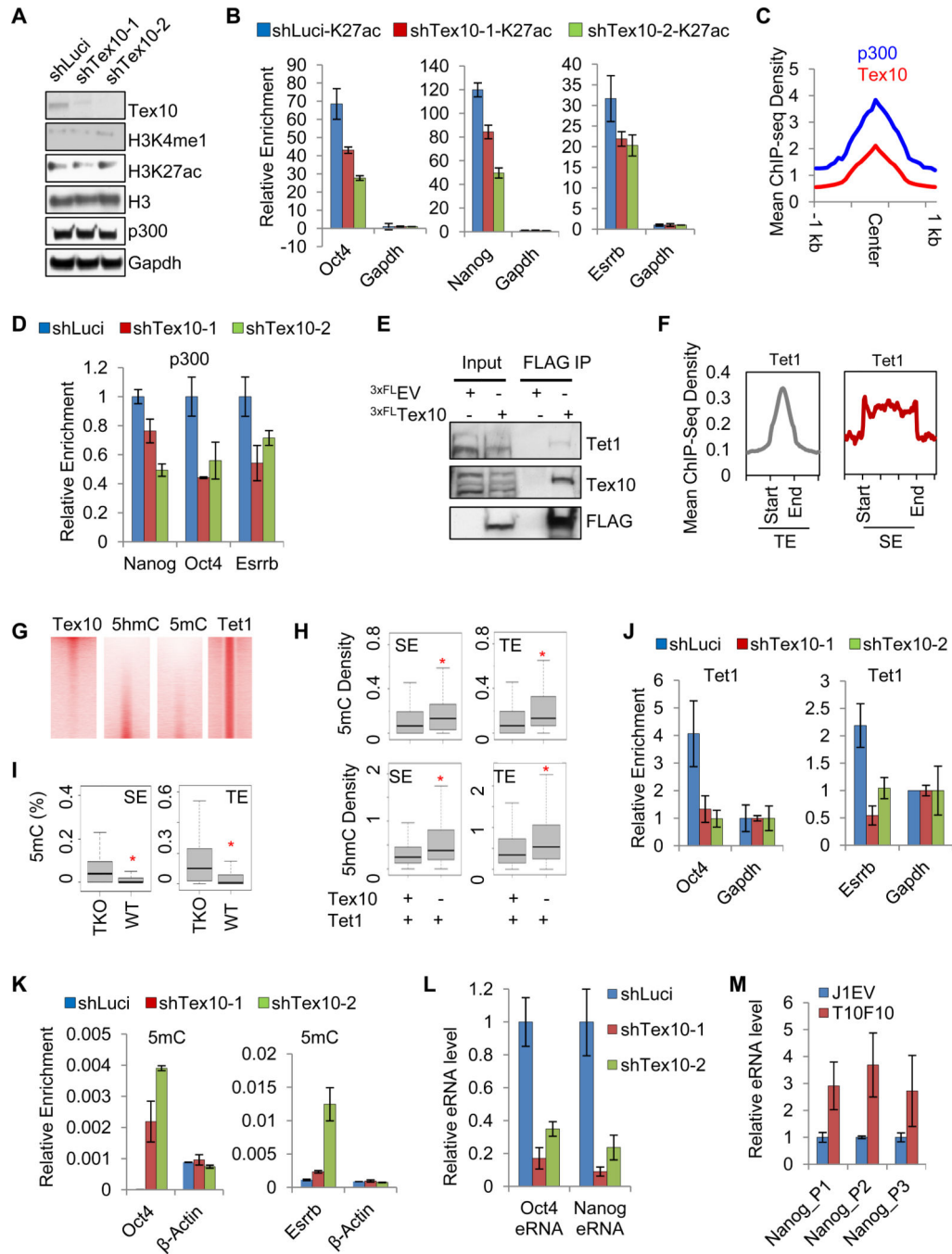


Figure 5. *Tex10* Regulates the Modifications and eRNA Transcription of SEs. See also **Figure S5** (A) Protein expression levels of *Tex10*, H3K4me1, H3K27ac, H3, p300, and *Gapdh* after 68 hrs of *Tex10* knockdown. (B) Impact of *Tex10* depletion on H3K27ac occupancy at *Oct4*, *Nanog*, and *Esrrb* SEs. CCE ESCs were treated with shRNA against *Tex10* for 68 hrs to induce *Tex10* depletion, and H3K27ac occupancy was determined by ChIP-qPCR. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM (n=3). (C) Average ChIP-seq read density of *Tex10* and p300 near the *Tex10* peak center.

- (D) Impact of Tex10 depletion on p300 occupancy at *Oct4*, *Nanog*, and *Esrrb* SEs. CCE ESCs were treated with shRNA against Tex10 for 68 hrs to induce Tex10 depletion, and p300 occupancy was determined by ChIP-qPCR. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM (n=3).
- (E) Validation of the Tex10-Tet1 interaction by colP in ESCs expressing 3xFLAG tagged Tex10.
- (F) Metagenes of Tet1 ChIP-seq density (reads per million per base pair) across the 8,563 TEs and the 231 SEs.
- (G) Heatmaps showing Tet1 peaks are separated by Tex10 and 5hmC/5mC enrichment.
- (H) Density of 5mC and 5hmC at Tet1 binding SE or TE regions.
- (I) 5mC percentages of Tet1/Tex10 co-binding SEs or TEs at WT and TKO (Tet1/2/3 triple knockout) ESCs.
- (J) Tet1 enrichment in *Oct4* and *Esrrb* SE regions after 68 hrs of Tex10 knockdown. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM (n=3).
- (K) 5mC enrichment in *Oct4* and *Esrrb* SE regions after 68 hrs of Tex10 knockdown. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM (n=3).
- (L) eRNA expression of *Oct4* and *Nanog* SEs after 4 days of Tex10 knockdown. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM (n=3).
- (M) eRNA expression of *Nanog* SE after overexpression of Tex10. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM (n=3).

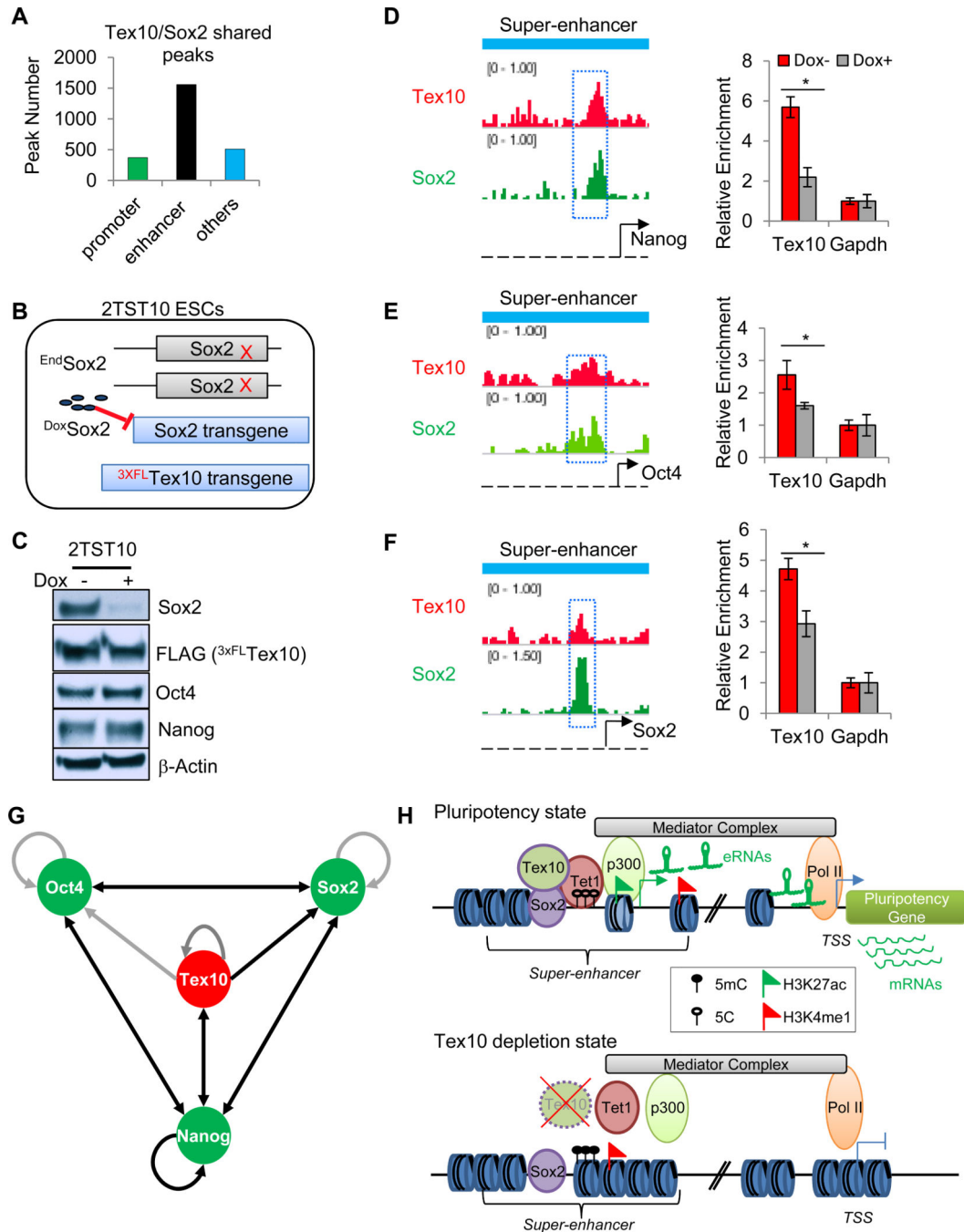


Figure 6. Sox2 Recruits Tex10 to a Subset of SEs in ESCs. See also Figure S6

(A) Most Tex10/Sox2 shared peaks are enriched at enhancers.

(B) Schematic overview of the 2TST10 ESCs. *EndSox2*, endogenous *Sox2* allele; *DoxSox2*, doxycycline repressible *Sox2* allele.

(C) Protein levels after 14 hrs of Dox treatment in 2TST10 ESCs.

(D–F) Dox treatment decreased the enrichment of Tex10 at the SEs of *Nanog* (D), *Oct4* (E), and *Sox2* (F). Data are presented as mean \pm SEM (n=3).

(G) Tex10 is integrated to the core pluripotency network through protein-protein or protein-DNA interactions. The grey arrows indicate protein-DNA interactions only, whereas the black arrows indicate both protein-protein and protein-DNA interactions.

(H) A model depicting functions of Tex10 on the regulation of SE-associated genes. In the pluripotency state, Tex10 co-occupies with Sox2/Med1 and recruits Tet1 and p300 to the SEs for DNA demethylation and histone acetylation leading to active eRNA/mRNA transcription. In Tex10-depleted cells, Tet1 and p300 cannot be recruited to the SEs, resulting in DNA hypermethylation and reduced H3K27ac enrichment at SEs and consequently the loss of SE activity and pluripotency gene expression. For simplicity, other pluripotency factors known to be present in ESC SEs such as Nanog, Oct4, and Tet2 are omitted in the illustration.

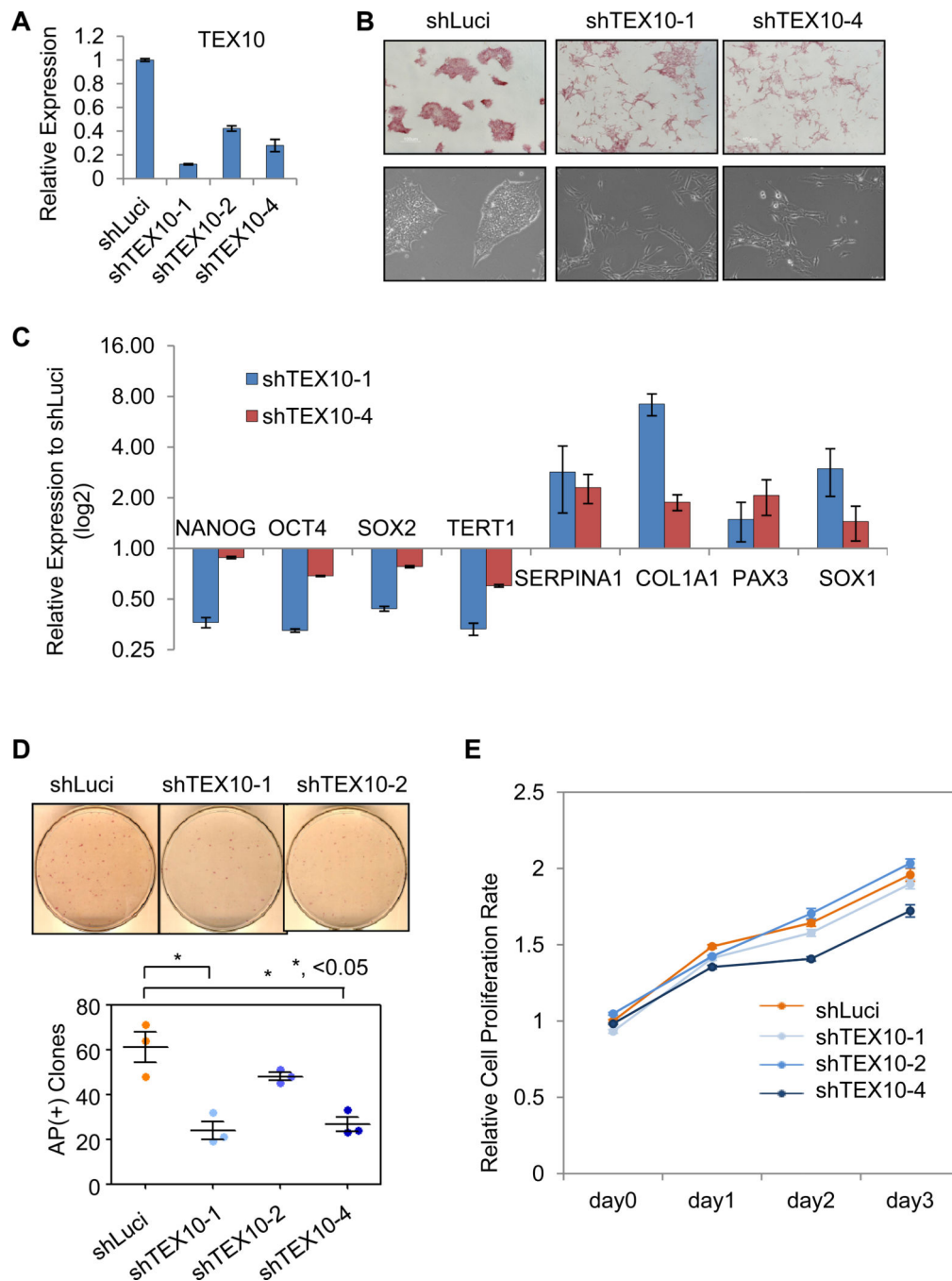


Figure 7. Human TEX10 Plays Critical Roles in Human Pluripotency and Reprogramming

(A) Knockdown efficiency of the shRNAs against human TEX10 4 days after TEX10 knockdown. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM (n=3).

(B) Morphology of hESCs upon luciferase and TEX10 knockdown. Top, AP staining of hESCs; Bottom, phase contrast microscopy of hESCs.

(C) Expression of human pluripotency and lineage markers in luciferase and TEX10 knockdown hESCs. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM (n=3).

- (D) Reprogramming efficiency of the human BJ cells with luciferase or TEX10 depletion. Representative AP positive iPS colonies and quantitative data from 3 different experiments were shown on top and bottom panels, respectively.
- (E) Proliferation of human BJ cells after TEX10 knockdown.

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