

SUPPLEMENTAL METHODS

MethoCult Colony-Forming Unit (CFU) Assay

CFU assay was performed using the murine MethoCult GF M3434 (Stem Cell Technologies) or human MethoCult H4034 Optimum (Stem Cell Technologies) kit. Procedure was performed per manufacturer's instructions.

Tissue Histology and Cell Imaging

A small portion of the human fetal lung was fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde for 2 hours, cryoprotected in 30% sucrose and embedded in Optimum Cutting Temperature embedding medium. 10-12µm tissue sections were made using a cryostat. Sections were rinsed with PBS prior to permeabilizing and blocking in a solution of 0.4% Triton X-100 and 10% NDS. A list of antibodies used for immunofluorescence can be found under Supplemental Table 1.

Imaging of cell cultures were performed using a Keyence BZ-X700 fluorescence microscope. Cytospins were stained using the Hema 3 Stat Pack (Fisher) and imaged using a Nikon Eclipse NiE.

Flow cytometry

All staining and washing steps were done using a solution of 1% BSA in PBS, 5mM EDTA. Single cell suspensions were stained with the appropriate master mix of antibodies on ice for 30 minutes. A table of antibodies used for analysis can be found under Supplemental Table 1. Fc-Receptor block treatment was performed using an anti-mouse CD16/32 antibody (BioLegend, Clone: 93) or anti-human Fc receptor block (biolegend, Human TruStain FcX) for 10 minutes prior to the addition of master mix. True-Stain Monocyte Blocker (BioLegend) and Brilliant Stain Buffer Plus (BD Biosciences) were included in master mix to minimize non-specific staining. Single stain controls were processed using cells and/or beads (Invitrogen, UltraComp eBeads Plus). Flow cytometry was performed using either a BD LSRII, a Stratifiedigm S1000EXI or a 5-laser Cytex Aurora spectral flow cytometer. Analysis was performed using FlowJo_v10.8 (FlowJo, LLC) software.

Single cell RNA sequencing

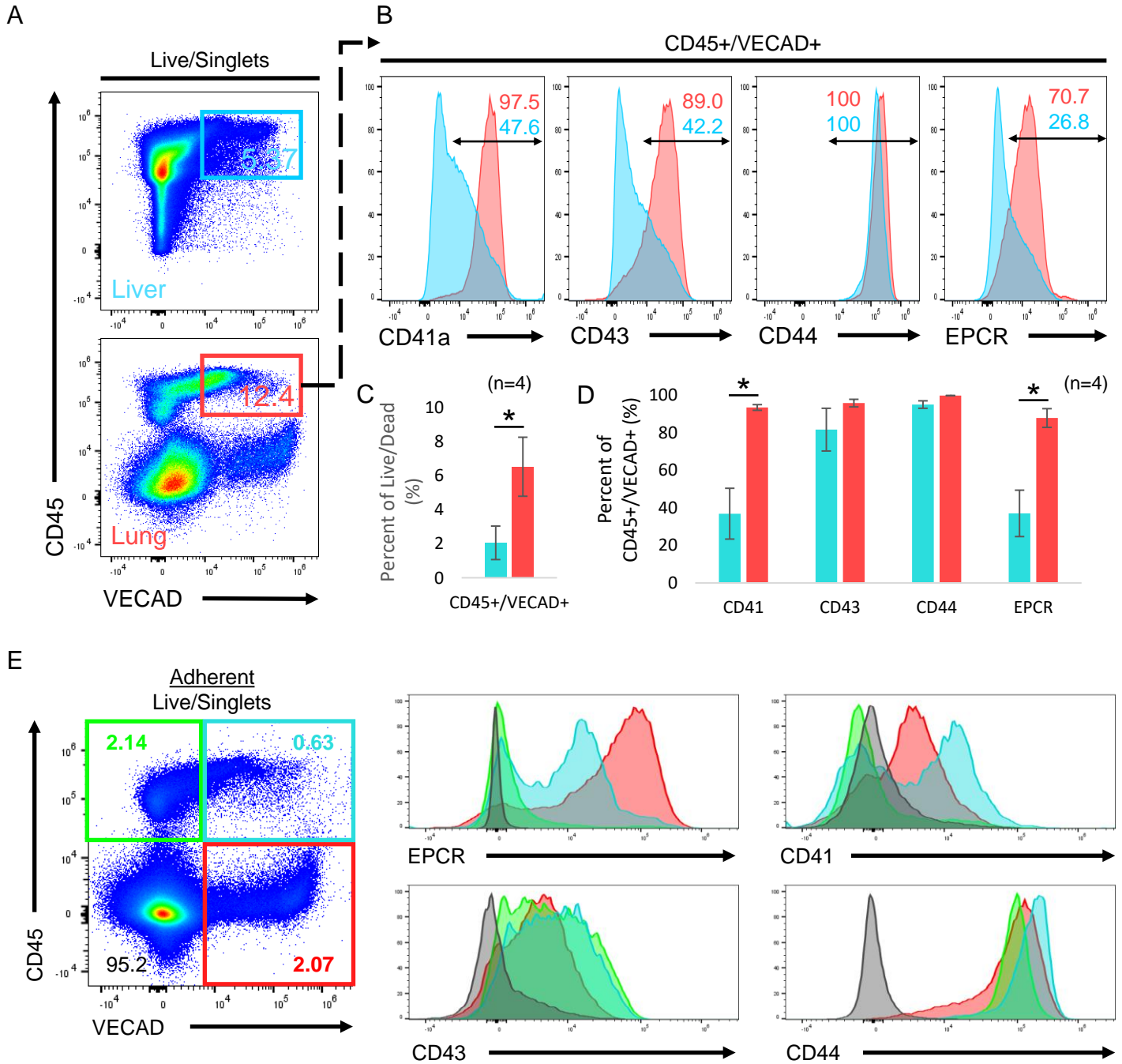
Adherent cells from days 4, 5 and 6 of explant cultures were released from Matrigel coated wells using Accutase. Collected cells were stained for VE-Cadherin-APC-Cy7 and resuspended in sort buffer (2% BSA in PBS) containing Calcein Blue AM (1:1000). Using a Beckman MoFlo Coulter Astrios, live-singlets and VECAD+ events were sorted into sort buffer (2% BSA in PBS with 5mM EDTA). Cells counts and viability after sorting were confirmed by hemocytometer using trypan blue. Suspension cells were left unsorted as VECAD expression is lost gradually as hematopoietic cells differentiate post-EHT emergence. VECAD+ sorted adherent cells and unsorted suspension cells were single cell captured using the 10X Genomics Chromium platform and prepared using the Single Cell 3' v3 kit. Library preparation and sequencing was done at the Boston University Microarray and Sequencing Resource (BUMSR) Core using the Illumina NextSeq 2000 instrument. GEO accession: GSE197290. Token: wvqjuouqdtmrtuh.

Bioinformatic analysis

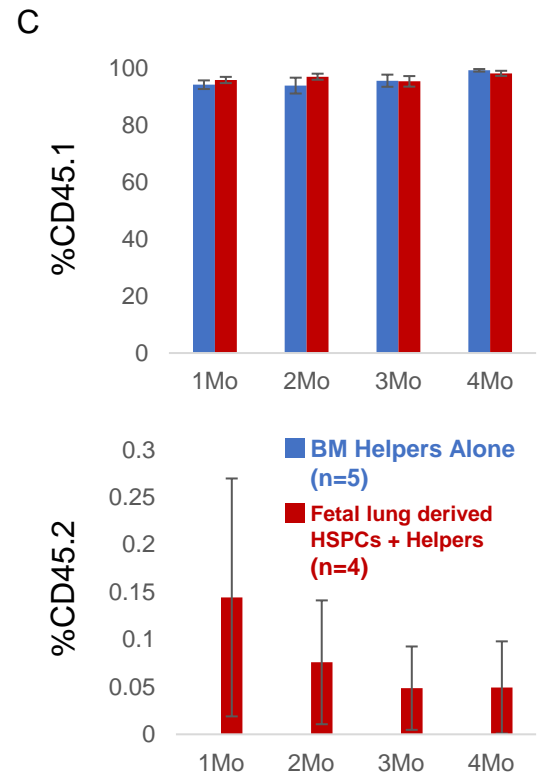
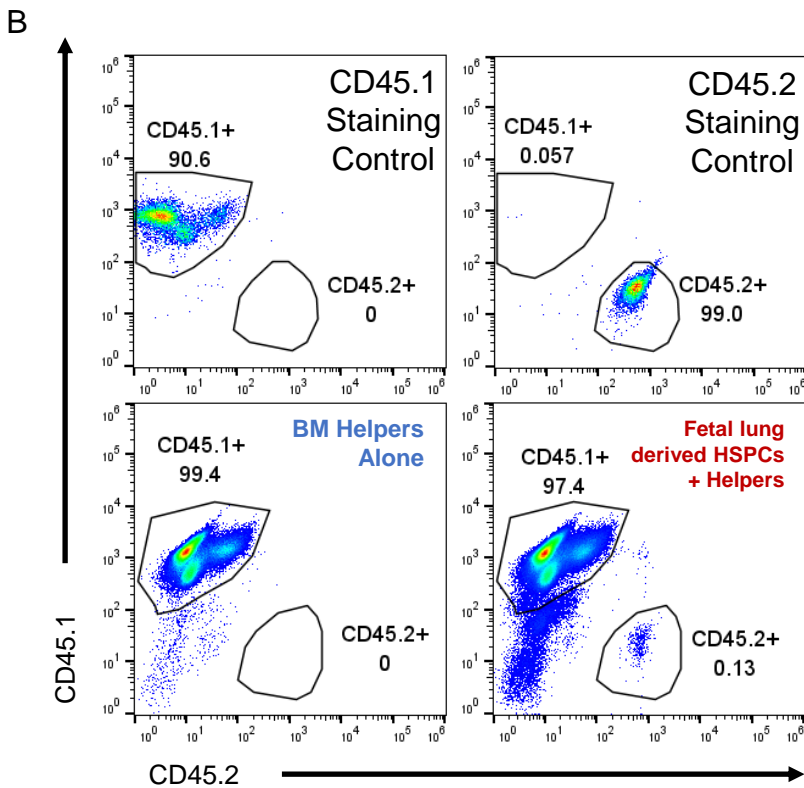
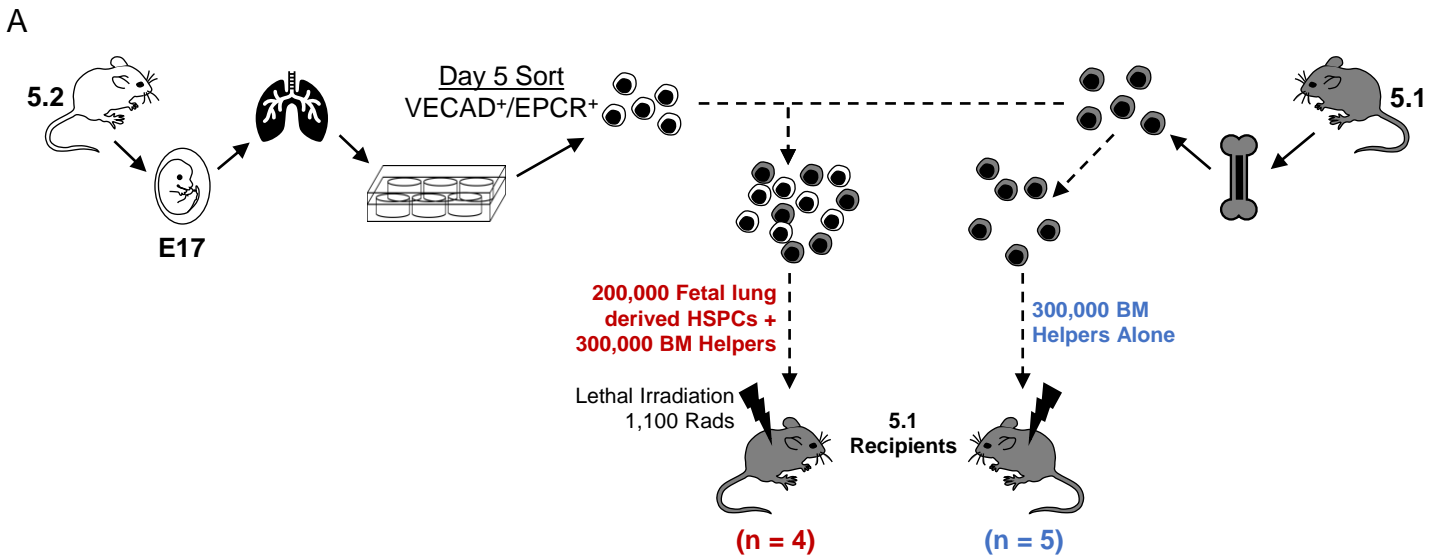
Reads were demultiplexed and aligned to the mouse genome assembly (GRCm38, Ensembl) with the STARsolo pipeline⁷³. Further analyses were done using Seurat v. 3.1.474. After inspection of the quality control metrics, cells with more than 12% of mitochondrial content or less than 800 detected genes were excluded for downstream analyses. We normalized and scaled the UMI counts using the regularized negative binomial regression (SCTransform)⁷⁵. Following the standard procedure in Seurat's pipeline, we performed linear dimensionality reduction (PCA), and used the top 20 principal components to compute both the UMAP⁷⁶ and the clusters (Louvain method⁷⁷) which were computed at a range of resolutions from 1.5 to 0.05 (more to fewer clusters). Cell cycle scores and classifications were done using the Seurat method⁷⁸. The cut-offs for independent filtering⁷⁹ prior to differential expression testing required genes: a) being detected in at least 10% of the cells of either population and b) having a natural log fold change of at least 0.25 between populations. The tests were performed using Seurat's wrapper for the MAST framework⁸⁰. For a comparison on the performance of methods for single-cell differential expression see Sonesson & Robinson et al.⁸¹. GEO accession: GSE197290, Token: wvqjuouqdtmrtuh.

Statistical analysis

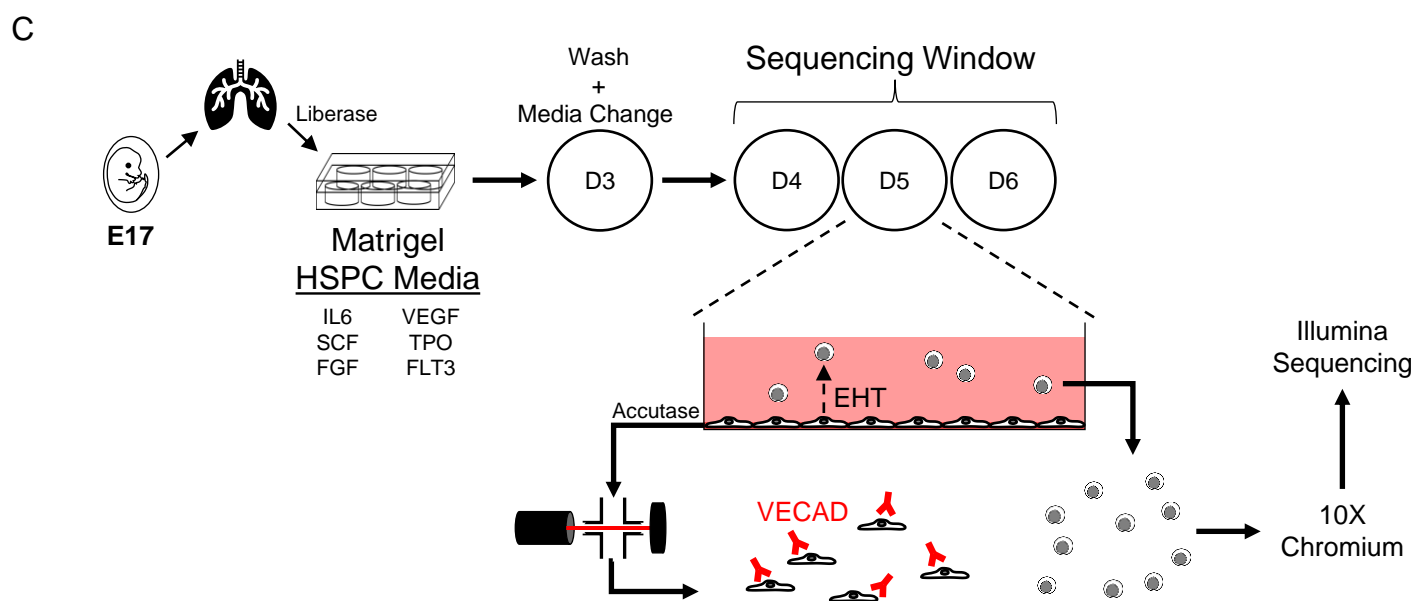
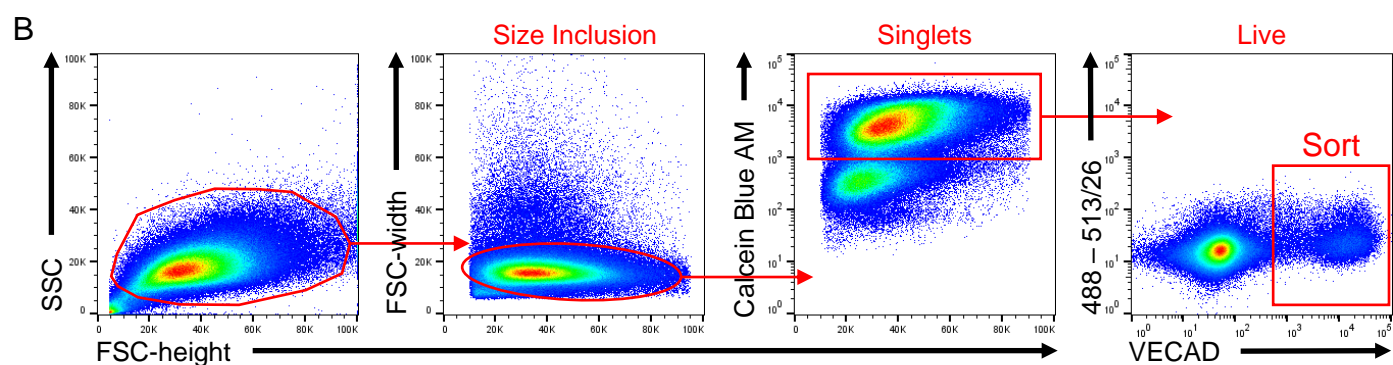
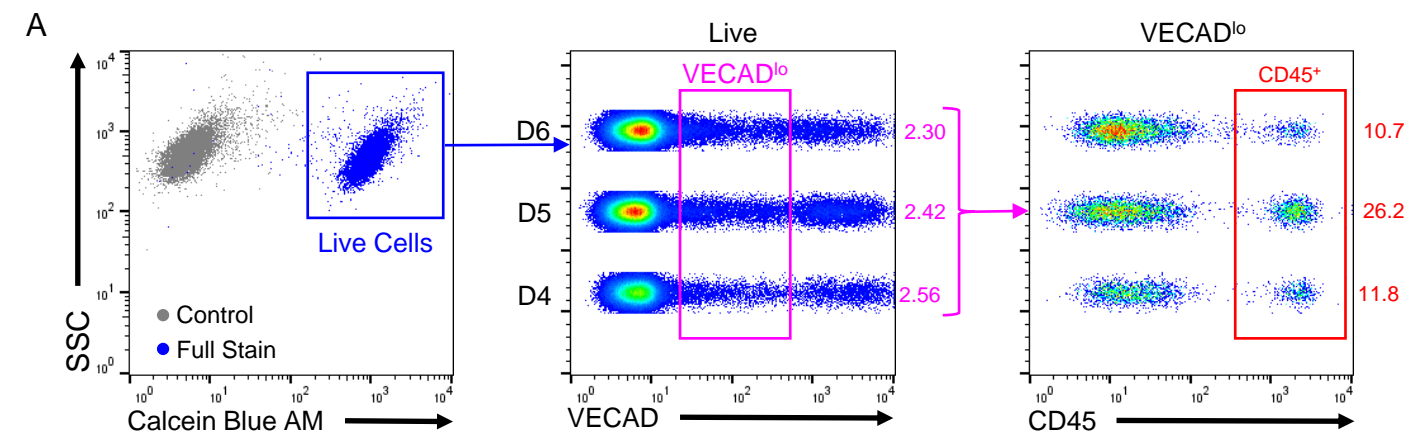
Significance for Enrichr based pathway enrichment was determined by Fisher exact test^{82,83}. Significance for pairwise scRNA-Seq gene expression comparisons was determined using the MAST framework⁸⁰. Significance for flow cytometry assays performed in biological triplicate was determined by student paired t-test.



Supplemental Figure 1. Assessment of EHT and pre-HSC markers on fetal liver and fetal lung explants. (A) Comparison of EHT and pre-HSC markers between fetal liver and fetal lung explants. (B) Comparison of EHT and pre-HSC markers between populations differentiated by VECAD and CD45 expression. *P < 0.05.



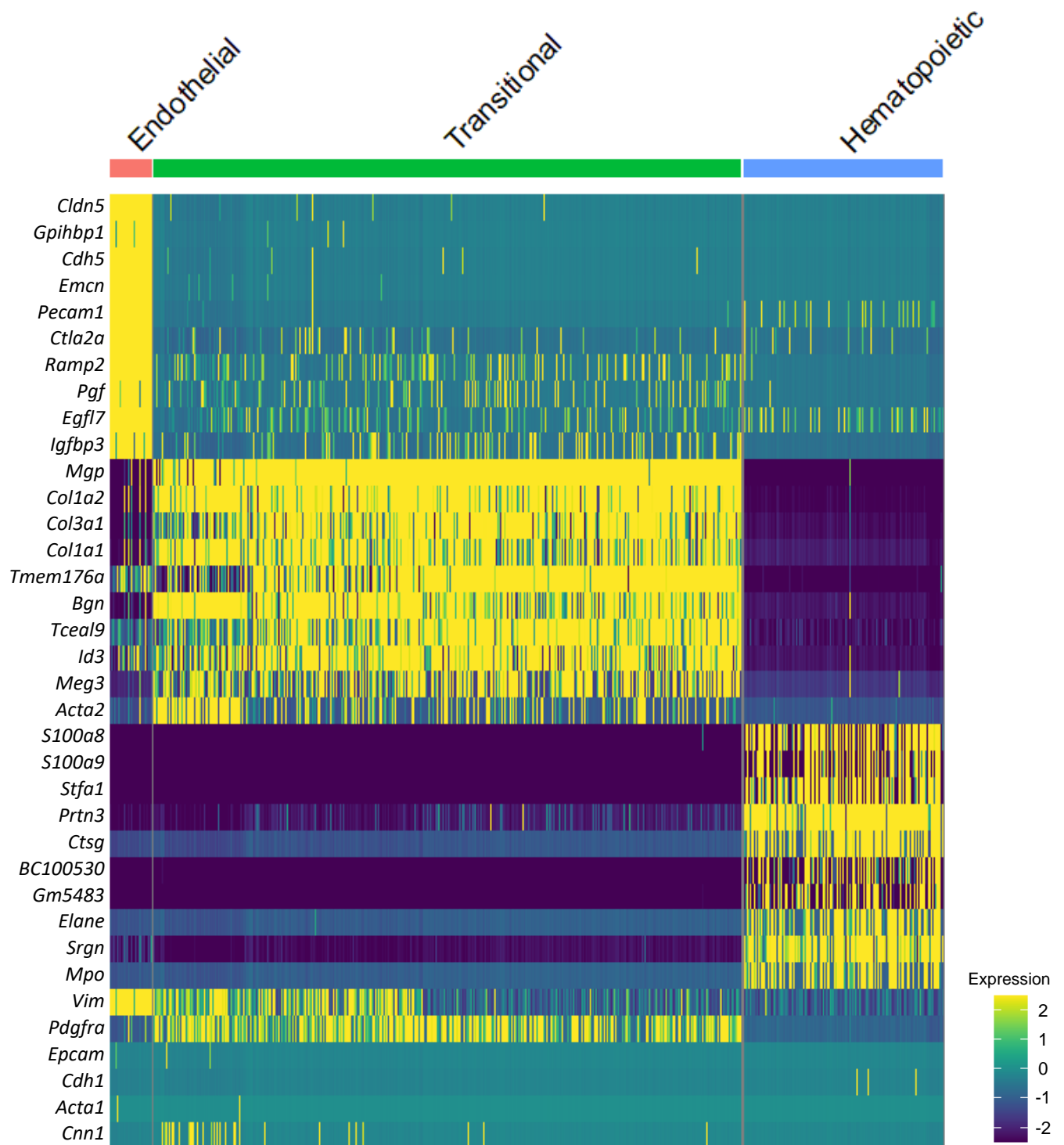
Supplemental Figure 2. Competitive transplantation assay of fetal lung explant derived HSPCs. (A) Schematic of transplantation assay. In brief, fetal lung explants from CD45.2 mice were cultured as described in the methods section. On day 5, all cells (adherent and suspension) were collected and stained for VECAD and EPCR. Live/VECAD⁺/EPCR⁺ cells were sorted using a MoFlo Astrios cell sorter. 200,000 Live/VECAD⁺/EPCR⁺/CD45.2⁺ cells were combined with 300,000 bulk BM cells isolated from CD45.1 mice. (B) Representative flow cytometric assessment of CD45.1 versus CD45.2 cells in peripheral blood for evidence of engraftment. (C) Degree of engraftment assessed monthly for 4 months.



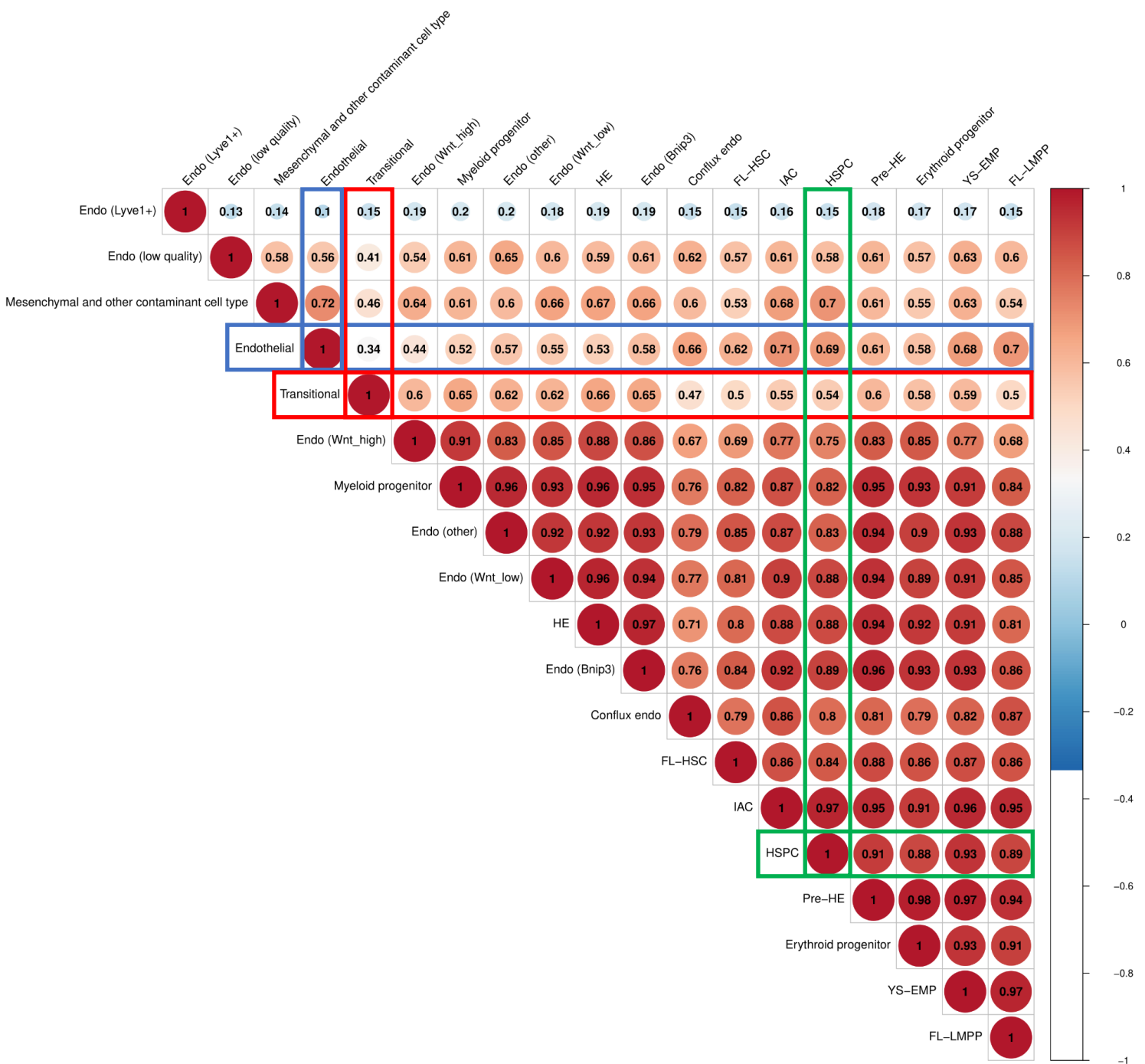
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Metric	Day 4 Suspension	Day 4 Adherent	Day 5 Suspension	Day 5 Adherent	Day 6 Suspension	Day 6 Adherent
Estimated Number of Cells	2693	532	2497	1099	1398	1915
Mean Reads per Cell	16139	68754	17906	34019	39497	21106
Median Genes per Cell	2863	5681	2994	4098	3883	3162

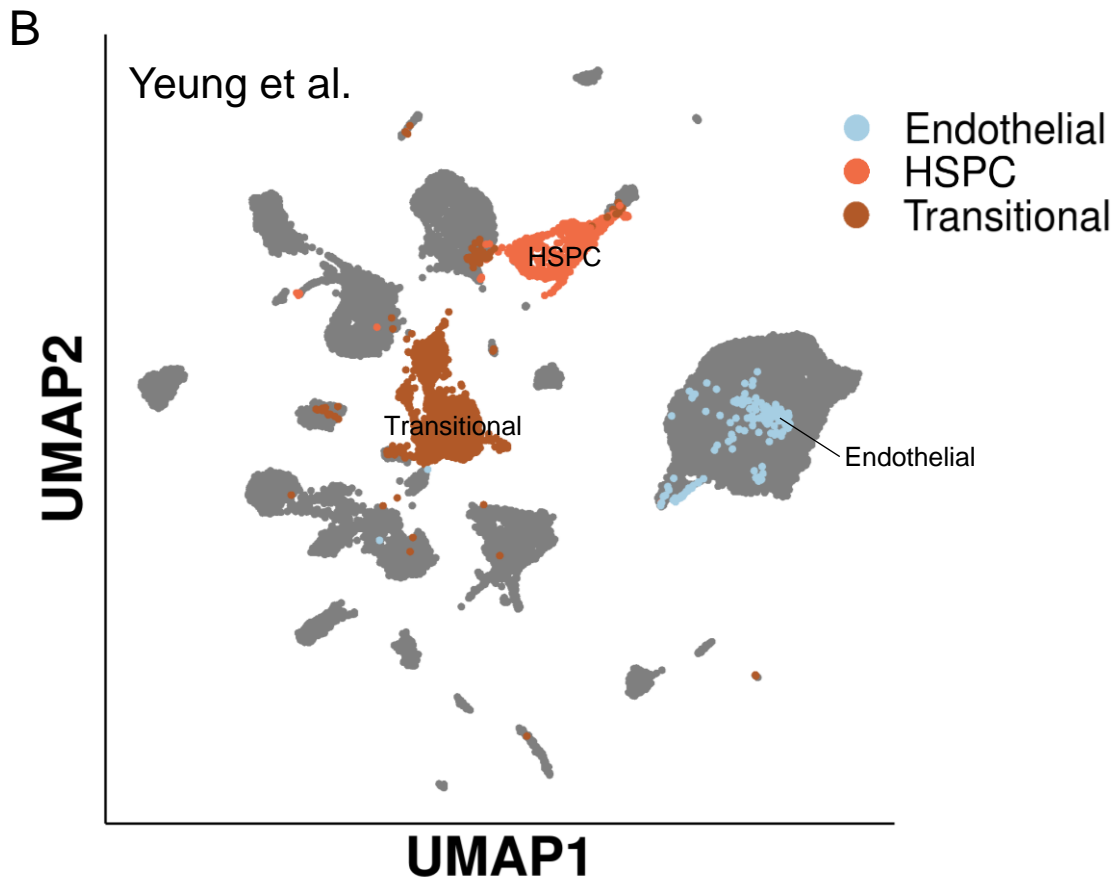
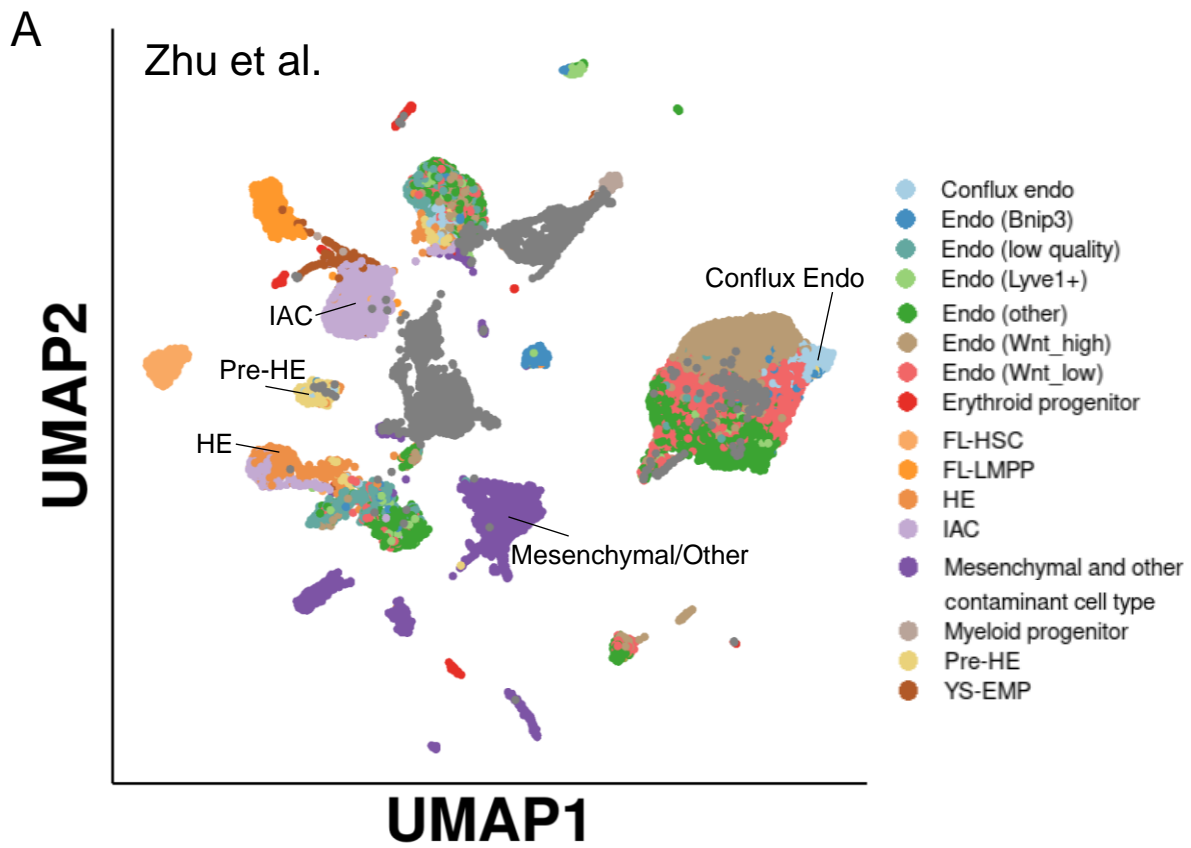
Supplemental Figure 3. Optimization of scRNA-Seq protocol and analysis. (A) Comparison of the fraction of VECAD^{lo} cells that are CD45⁺. (B) Sorting strategy for scRNA-Seq of adherent cells from fetal lung explants. (C) Schematic of scRNA-Seq procedure. (D) Table showing baseline metrics of scRNA-Seq analysis.



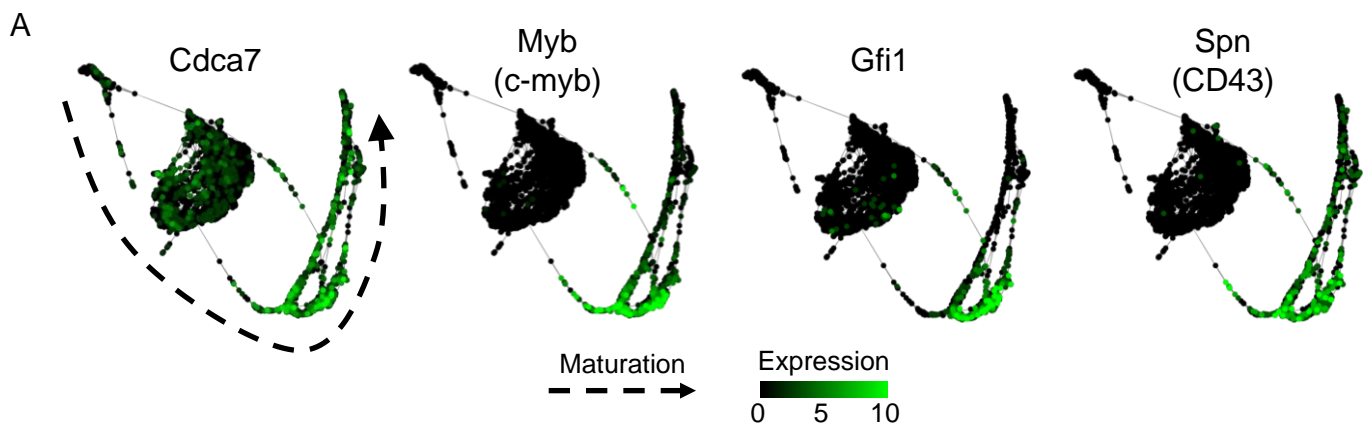
Supplemental Figure 4. Heatmap of DGE analysis of fetal lung scRNA-Seq. Top 10 differentially expressed genes for each cluster presented as a heat map. Common markers for fibroblasts (*Vim*, *Pdgfra*), epithelial cells (*Epcam*, *Cdh1*), and smooth muscle cells (*Acta1*, *Cnn1*) are also provided. Full enrichment analysis can be found in Supplemental_Data.



Supplemental Figure 5. Pearson Correlation Plot Comparing Clusters Identified by Yeung et al. Versus Zhu et al. scRNA-Seq datasets from Yeung et al. and Zhu et al.³⁵ were harmonized and analyzed by Pearson correlation analysis to assess for similarities in gene expression profile. Endothelial, Transitional, and HSPC clusters as defined by Yeung et al. are highlighted with blue, red, and green boxes, respectively, to assist in interpretation.



Supplemental Figure 6. UMAP Projection of Harmonized Datasets from Yeung et al. and Zhu et al. scRNA-Seq datasets from Yeung et al. and Zhu et al.³⁵ were harmonized and plotted by UMAP projection. (A) Cluster identities as defined by Zhu et al. are shown, and select clusters are highlighted to provide further clarity. (B) Cluster identities as defined here by Yeung et al. are shown.



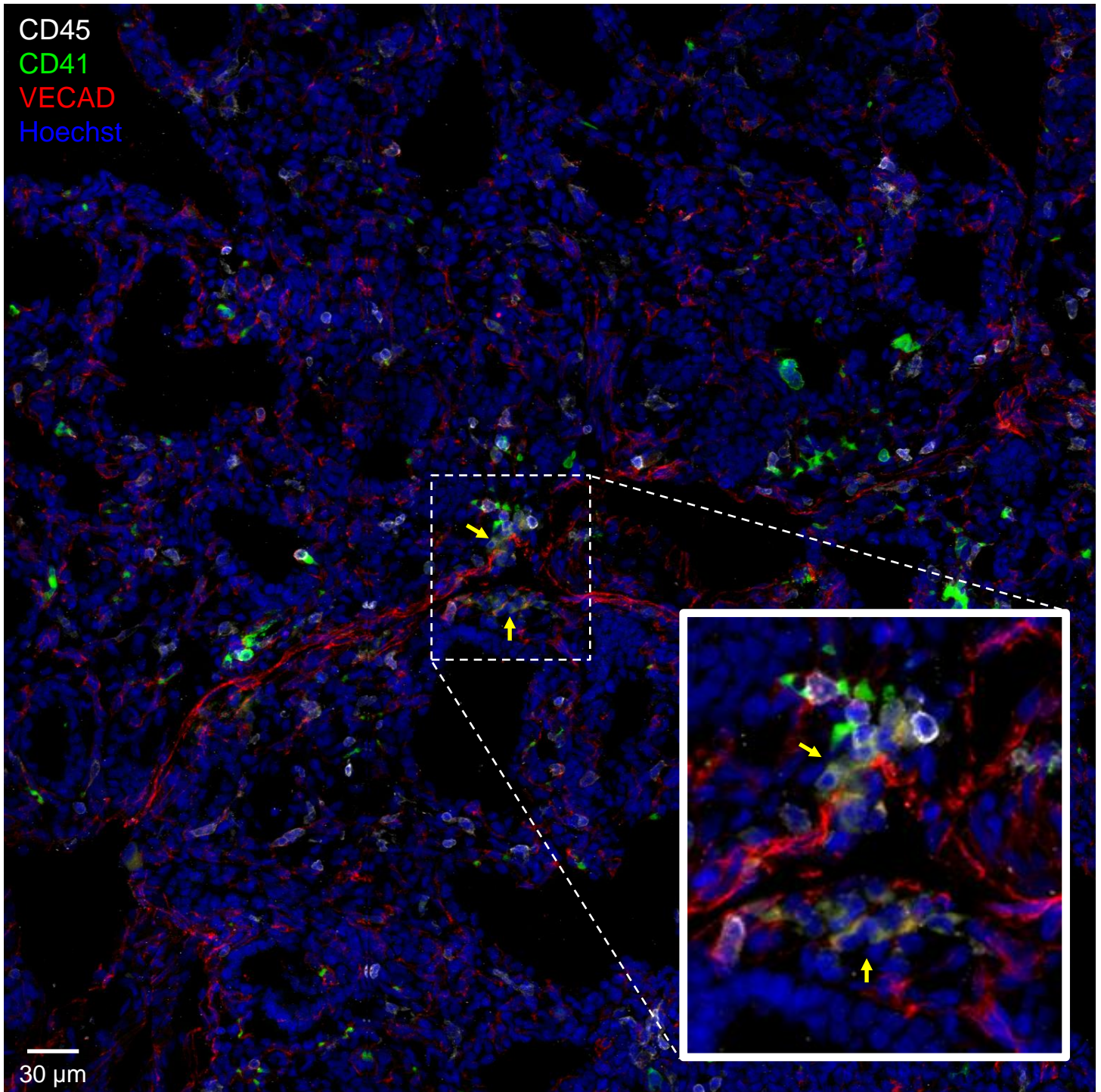
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Cluster	Index	Name	p-value
Endothelial	1	regulation of angiogenesis (GO:0045765)	3.55E-08
	2	apical junction assembly (GO:0043297)	2.14E-06
	3	bicellular tight junction assembly (GO:0070830)	2.58E-05
	4	blood vessel morphogenesis (GO:0048514)	2.58E-05
	5	tight junction assembly (GO:0120192)	2.58E-05
	6	glomerulus vasculature development (GO:0072012)	2.58E-05
	7	cell-cell junction assembly (GO:0007043)	4.79E-05
	8	maintenance of blood-brain barrier (GO:0035633)	5.71E-05
	9	extracellular structure organization (GO:0043062)	5.71E-05
	10	external encapsulating structure organization (GO:0045229)	5.71E-05
Transitional	1	extracellular matrix organization (GO:0030198)	3.99E-05
	2	skin morphogenesis (GO:0043589)	0.000173
	3	muscle contraction (GO:0006936)	0.000173
	4	extracellular structure organization (GO:0043062)	0.000173
	5	external encapsulating structure organization (GO:0045229)	0.000173
	6	skin development (GO:0043588)	0.000222
	7	supramolecular fiber organization (GO:0097435)	2.69E-04
	8	collagen fibril organization (GO:0030199)	2.82E-04
	9	regulation of membrane protein ectodomain proteolysis (GO:0051043)	1.95E-03
	10	negative regulation of dendritic cell differentiation (GO:2001199)	4.07E-03
Hematopoietic	1	neutrophil degranulation (GO:0043312)	2.92E-13
	2	neutrophil activation involved in immune response (GO:0002283)	2.92E-13
	3	neutrophil mediated immunity (GO:0002446)	2.92E-13
	4	defense response to bacterium (GO:0042742)	2.61E-09
	5	leukocyte aggregation (GO:0070486)	0.000104
	6	defense response to Gram-negative bacterium (GO:0050829)	0.000112
	7	neutrophil migration (GO:1990266)	1.25E-04
	8	innate immune response (GO:0045087)	7.64E-04
	9	regulation of phagocytosis (GO:0050764)	8.85E-04
	10	myeloid cell activation involved in immune response (GO:0002275)	8.85E-04

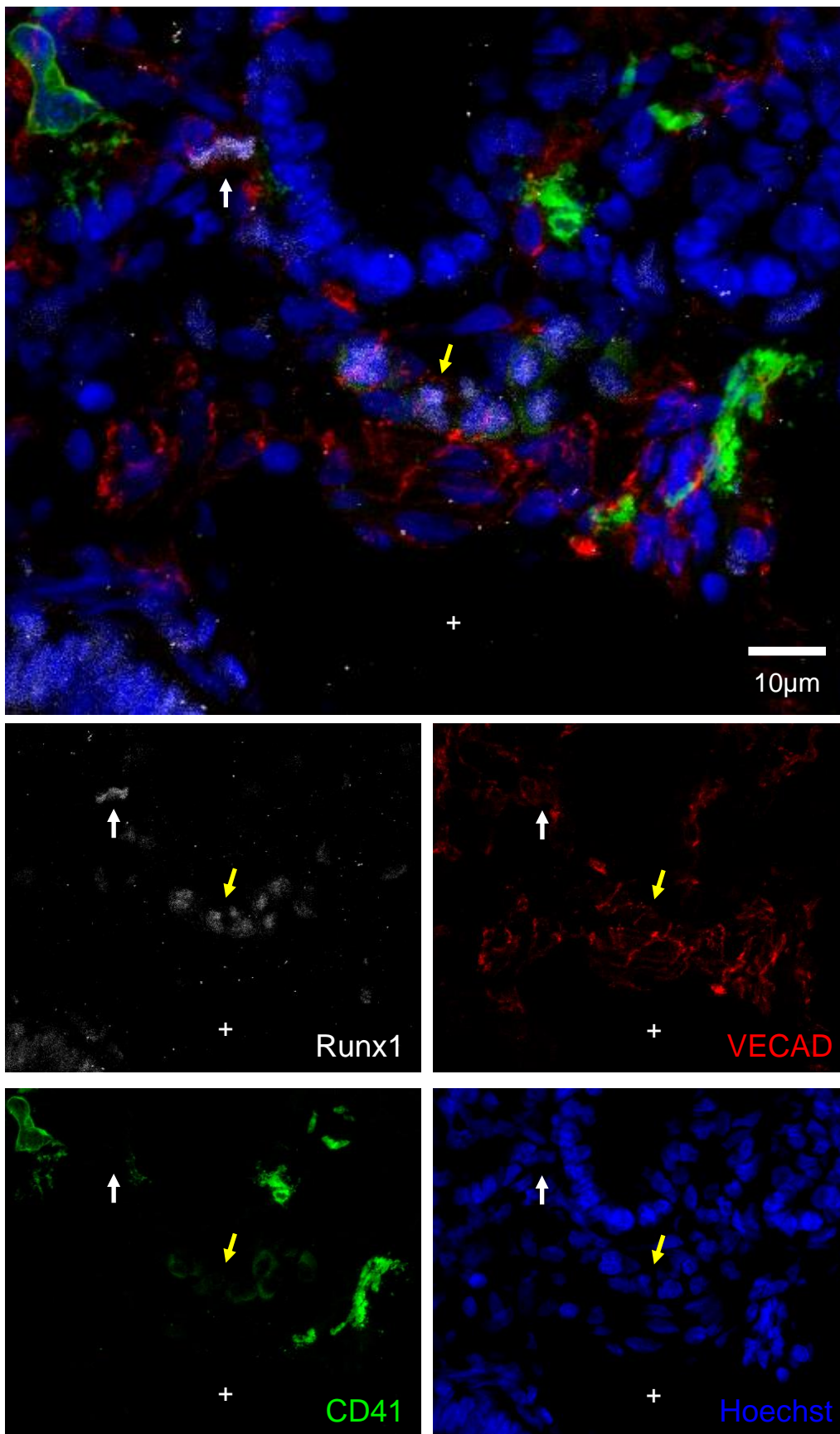
Supplemental Figure 7. SPRING and DGE analysis of fetal lung scRNA-Seq. (A) SPRING plots showing the expression of key hematopoietic commitment markers. The dotted arrow represents the trajectory of maturation. (B) Extended list of Gene Ontology biological processes enrichment analysis. Full enrichment analysis can be found in Supplemental_Data.

	Gestational Age	Fetal Age	Gender	Chromosomal Trisomy
Donor Sample 1	20 Weeks	18 Weeks	Unknown	None Detected
Donor Sample 2	24 Weeks	22 Weeks	Female	None Detected
Donor Sample 3	21 Weeks	19 Weeks	Unknown	None Detected
Donor Sample 4	24 Weeks	22 Weeks	Male	None Detected

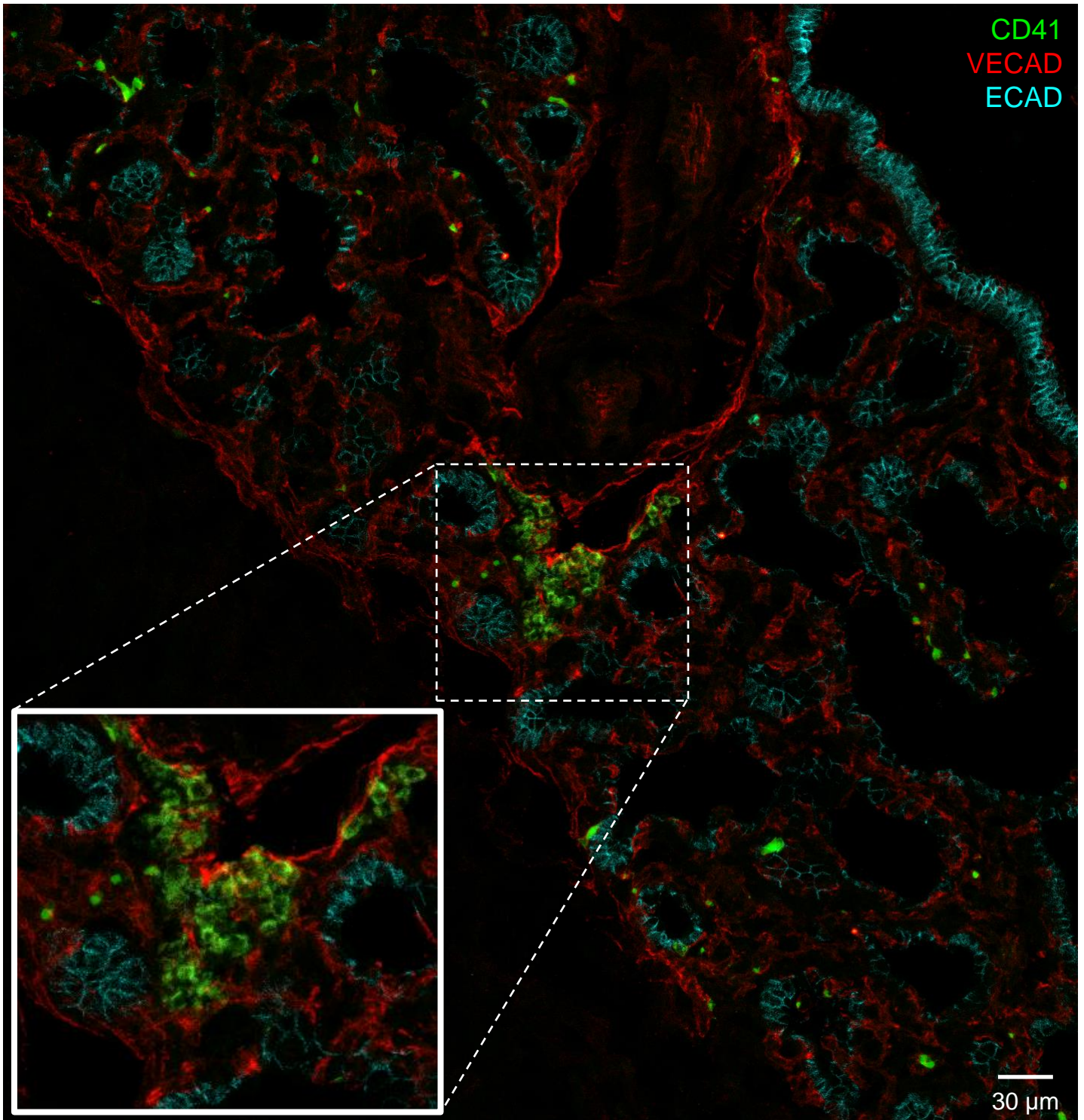
Supplemental Table 1. Characteristics of human fetal donor tissue samples.



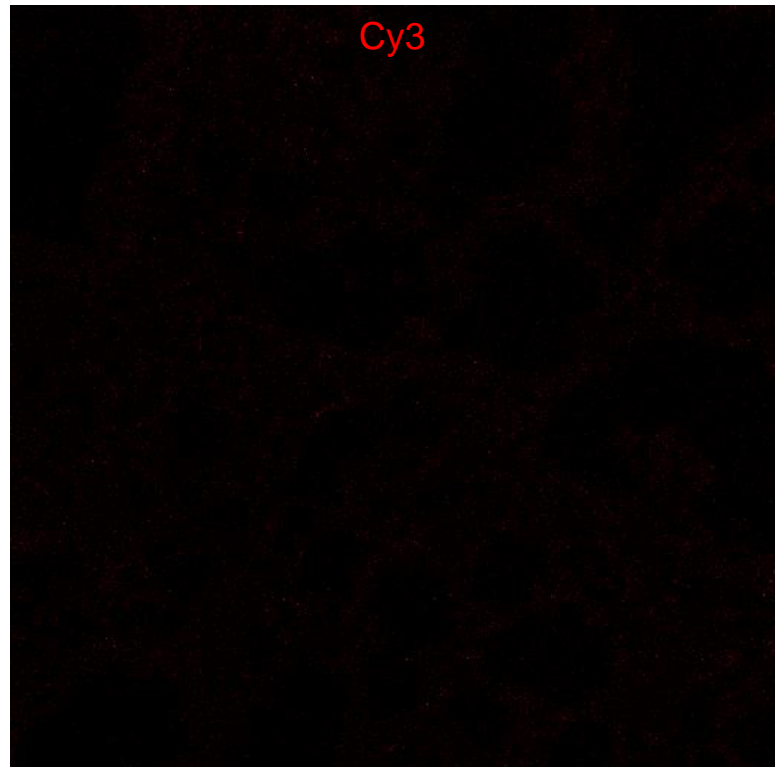
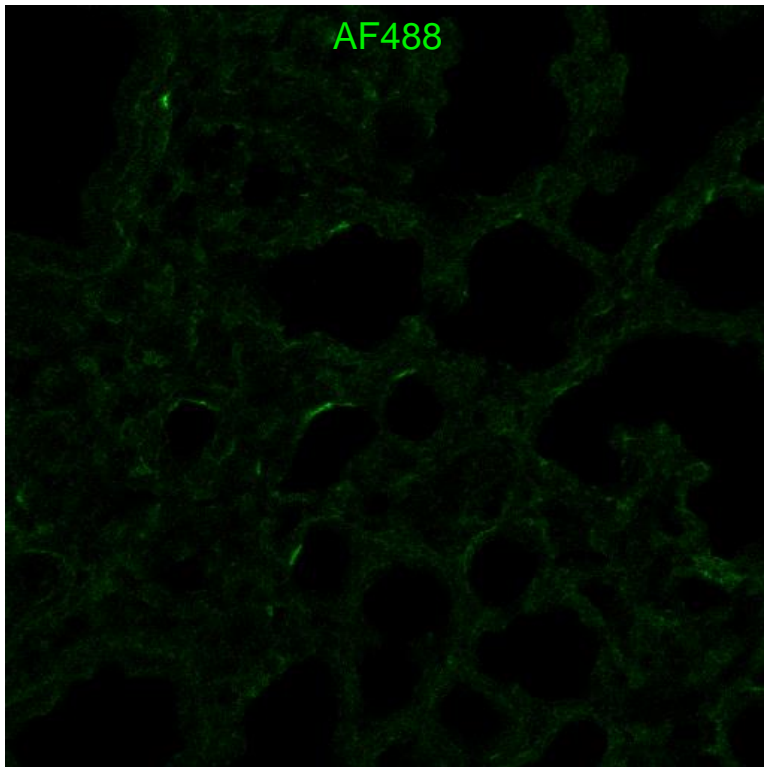
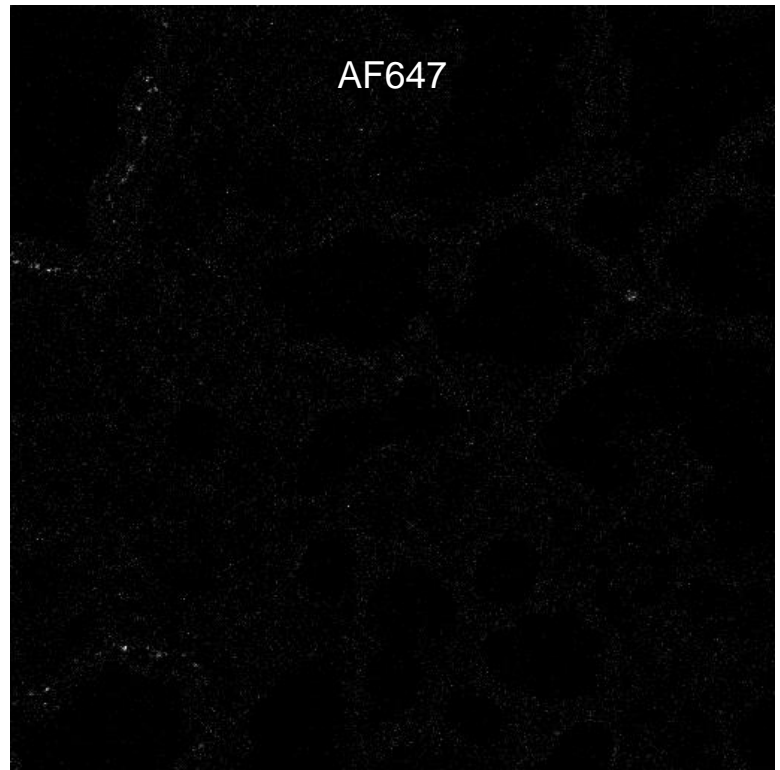
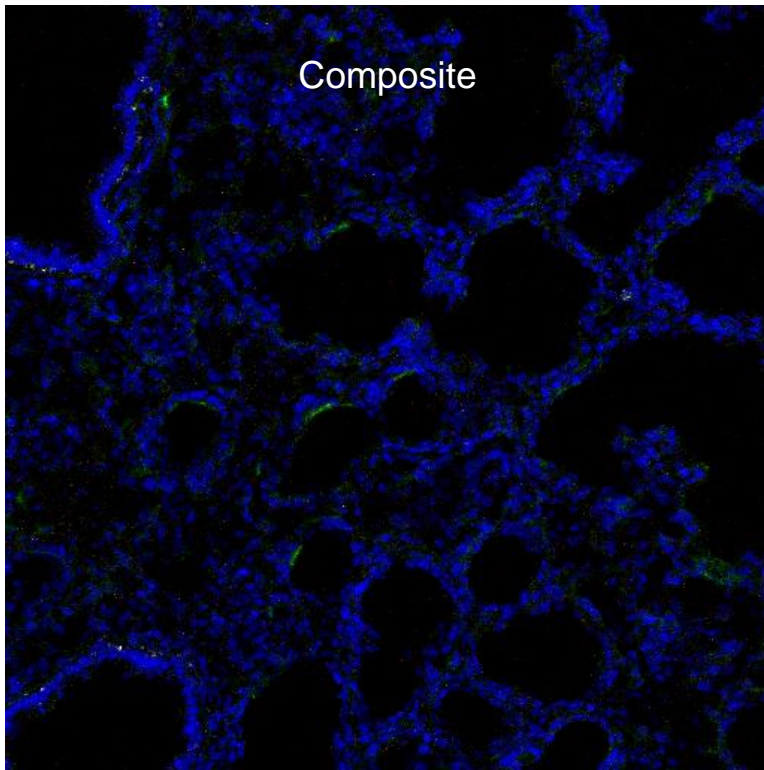
Supplemental Figure 8. Wide field image of immunofluorescent staining of in-situ fetal lung EHT. 12 μm sections of a fixed frozen post-conception week 20 human fetal lung stained with the broad hematopoietic marker CD45, the EHT marker CD41, the endothelial marker VECAD, and the nuclear stain Hoechst. Cells co-expressing VECAD, CD41 and CD45 are highlighted with yellow arrows, demonstrating that EHT clusters are found in discrete regions.



Supplemental Figure 9. Immunofluorescent staining shows Runx1 expression during in-situ fetal lung EHT. 12µm sections of a fixed frozen post-conception week 20 human fetal lung stained with the EHT marker CD41, the nuclear EHT marker Runx1, the endothelial marker VECAD, and the nuclear stain Hoechst. Cells that are Runx1+ and VECAD+ are highlighted with a white arrow, while cells that are Runx1+ and CD41+ are highlighted with a yellow arrow. The lumen of a large vessel lined with VECAD+ staining is highlighted with a “+”.



Supplemental Figure 10. Wide field image of immunofluorescent staining of in-situ fetal lung EHT clusters oriented towards the lung interstitium. 12µm sections of a fixed frozen post-conception week 20 human fetal lung stained with the EHT marker CD41, the endothelial marker VECAD, and the epithelial marker epithelial cadherin (ECAD). Clusters of CD41⁺ cells are closely associated with a large VECAD⁺ vessel but are expanding into the interstitial space of the lung towards ECAD⁺ developing lung epithelium.



Supplemental Figure 11. Wide field image of secondary only control immunofluorescent staining of fetal lung. Post-conception week 20 human fetal lungs were fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde, then frozen in OCT. 12 μ m cryosections were then blocked with a blocking solution containing bovine serum albumin, normal donkey serum, and triton x-100 for 30 minutes. Control sections were left to incubate overnight at 4°C in a diluted blocking solution without any primary antibodies, then subsequently washed and stained with the corresponding secondary antibodies.

Marker	Species	Conjugate	Clone	Vendor	Catalog. #	Dilution
CD235a	Human	PE	HIR2	BD Biosciences	555570	1:1000
CD34	Human	BV421	581	BD Biosciences	562577	1:100
CD41	Human	BV421	HIP8	Biologend	303730	1:200
CD41	Human	Unconjugated	HIP8	BD Biosciences	BDB555465	1:100
CD42b	Human	APC	HIP1	BD Biosciences	551061	1:200
CD45	Human	APC	2D1	Biologend	368512	1:200
CD45	Human	PE-Cy7	2D1	Biologend	368532	1:200
EPCR (CD201)	Human	APC	RCR-401	Biologend	351906	1:100
GPI80	Human	PE	3H9	MBL	D087-5	1:50
KDR	Human	PE	89106	BD Biosciences	560494	1:200
KDR	Human	APC	89106	BD Biosciences	560871	1:200
Vascular Endothelial Cadherin (VECAD/CD144)	Human	AF647	55-7H1	BD Biosciences	561567	1:100
Vascular Endothelial Cadherin (VECAD/CD144)	Human	PE	55-7H1	BD Biosciences	561714	1:100
Vascular Endothelial Cadherin (VECAD/CD144)	Human	Unconjugated	Polyclonal	R&D Systems	AF938	1:100
Anti-RUNX1 / AML1 + RUNX3 + RUNX2	Human	Unconjugated	Monoclonal	Abcam	ab92336	1:100
CD44	Human/Murine	BV711	IM7	Biologend	103057	1:800
CD45	Human/Murine	Unconjugated	Polyclonal	Invitrogen	PIPA587427	1:100
Epithelial Cadherin (E-Cadherin)	Human/Murine	Unconjugated	DECMA-1	Santa Cruz Biotechnology	sc-59778	1:50
CD150	Murine	BV711	TC15-12F12.2	Biologend	115941	1:400
CD41	Murine	BV421	MWRReg30	Biologend	133911	1:400
CD43	Murine	FITC	S11	Biologend	143204	1:100
CD45	Murine	BUV395	30-F11	BD Biosciences	564279	1:200
CD48	Murine	BV605	HM48-1	Biologend	103441	1:100
EPCR	Murine	APC	eBio1560	eBioscience	50-151-23	1:200
Kit	Murine	BV510	ACK2	Biologend	135119	1:400
Kit	Murine	APC	2B8	Biologend	105812	1:200
Lineage Cocktail	Murine	FITC	Cocktail	Invitrogen	22777072	1:5
Sca-1 (Ly-6A/E)	Murine	PE	D7	eBioscience	50-110-49	1:200
Vascular Endothelial Cadherin (VECAD/CD144)	Murine	Biotin	BV13	Biologend	138008	1:200
Streptavidin	N/A	APC-Cy7	N/A	Biologend	405208	1:200
Calcein Blue AM	Viability Dye	N/A	N/A	Invitrogen	C1429	1:1000
Live/Dead Fixable Blue	Viability Dye	N/A	N/A	Invitrogen	L34961	1:800

Supplemental Table 2. Antibodies used for flow cytometry and immunofluorescent microscopy.