

Supplemental Information

Removal of innate immune barriers

allows efficient transduction of quiescent

human hematopoietic stem cells

Erika Valeri, Giulia Unali, Francesco Piras, Monah Abou-Alezz, Giulia Pais, Fabrizio Benedicenti, Maria Rosa Lidonnici, Ivan Cuccovillo, Ilaria Castiglioni, Sergio Arévalo, Giulio Spinozzi, Ivan Merelli, Rayk Behrendt, Adrian Oo, Baek Kim, Nathaniel R. Landau, Giuliana Ferrari, Eugenio Montini, and Anna Kajaste-Rudnitski

Figure S1

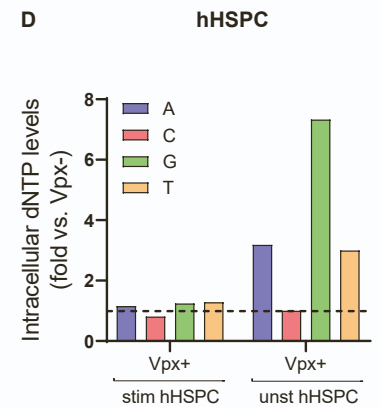
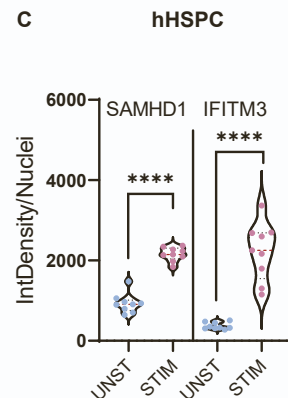
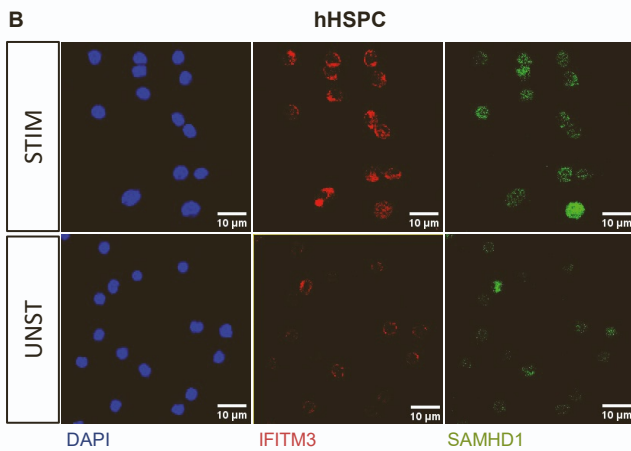
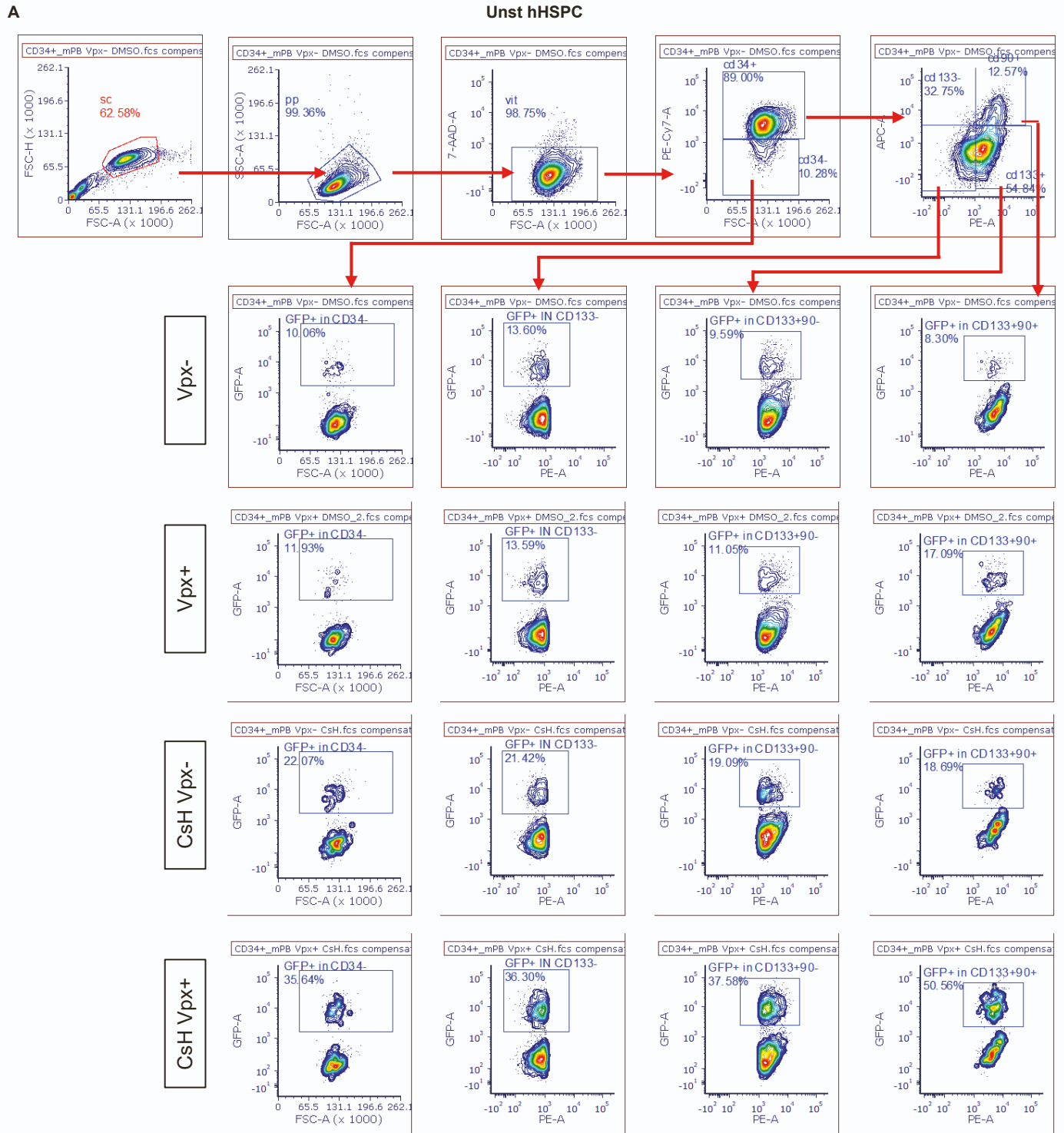


Figure S1. Impact of Vpx in human HSPC. (A) Flow cytometry data of one representative experiment from Figure 1C to show the gating strategy used to determine the GFP expression in the different hHSPC subpopulations. (B-C) Immunofluorescence (IF) of stimulated and unstimulated hHSPC from the same donors stained for IFITM3 and SAMHD1. IF images were acquired using TCS SP5 Leica confocal microscope, 40× with oil. Representative zoom images are shown, scale bar 10 μ M (n=9 images acquired from three independent HSPC donors; Mann Whitney test, statistical significance is for ****P< 0.0001). (D) Intracellular dNTP levels were measured in stimulated and unstimulated hHSPC 24h post transduction with LV \pm Vpx, in presence of CsH (n=1).

Figure S2

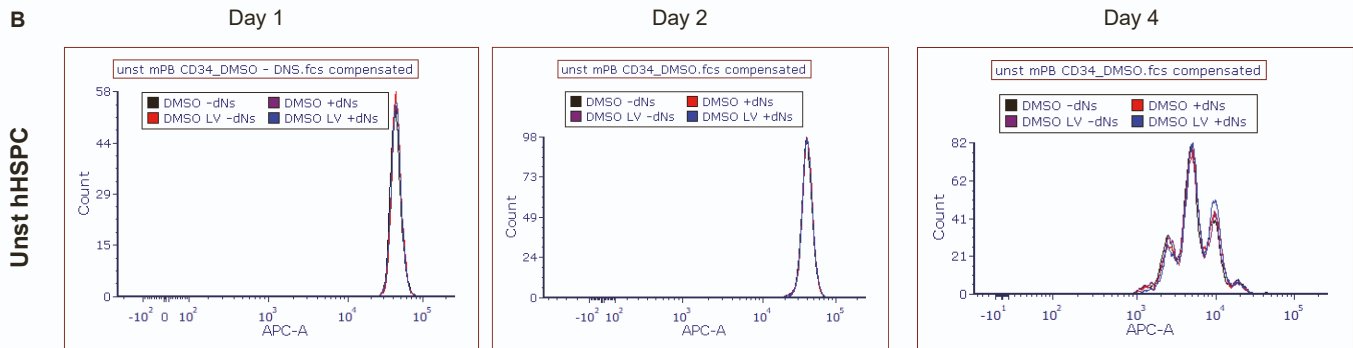
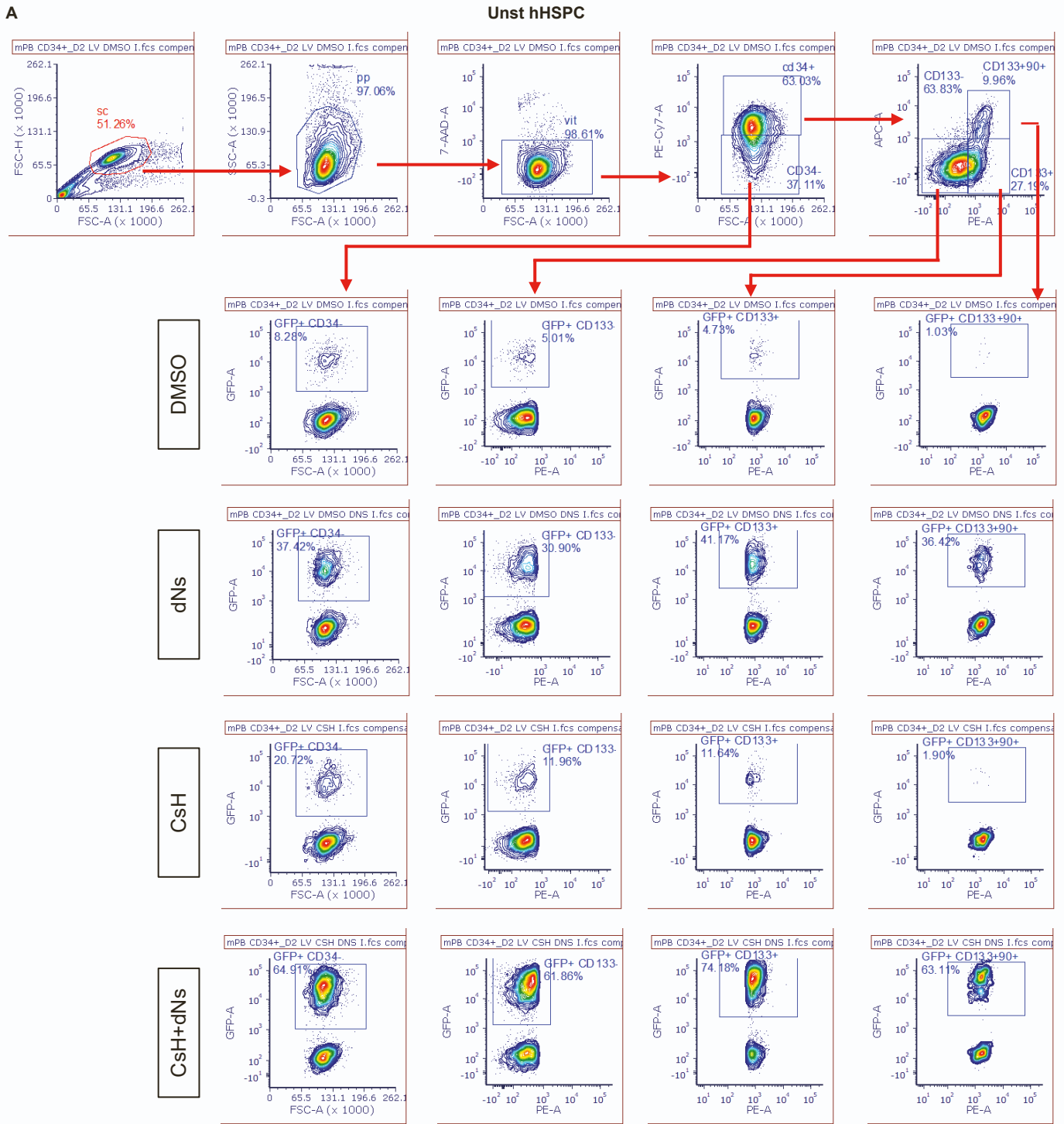


Figure S2. Gating strategy in unstimulated hHSPC upon dNs delivery. (A) Flow cytometry data of one representative experiment from Figure 2A to show the gating strategy used to determine the GFP expression in the different hHSPC subpopulations. (B) Representative flow cytometry histograms from one experiment in Figure 4A showing cell proliferation dye dilution in unstimulated hHSPC at different time points after transduction and/or dNs delivery.

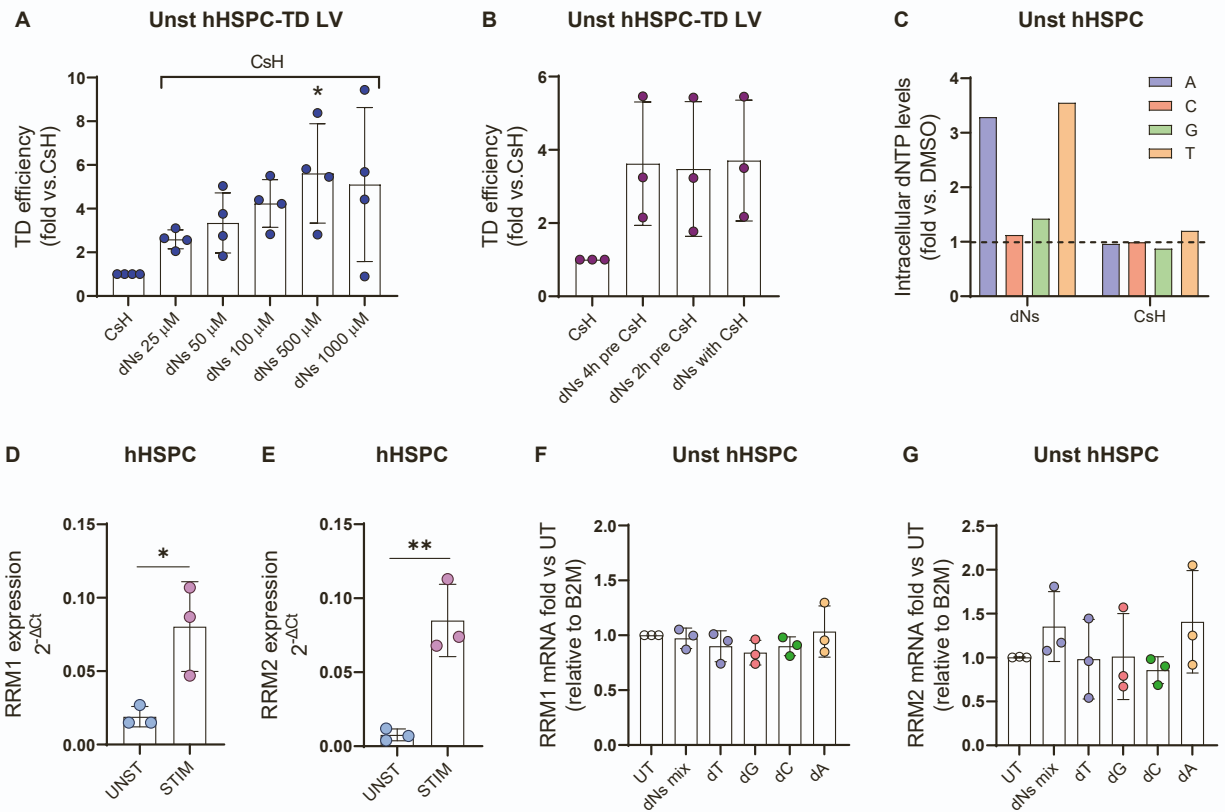


Figure S3. Impact of dNTPs in unstimulated hHSPC. (A) Unstimulated hHSPC were transduced in presence of CsH upon exposure to different concentrations of dNTPs. Percentages of transduced cells expressed as fold increase versus CsH (mean \pm SD; $n=4$, Kruskal-Wallis test vs. CsH=1). (B) Unstimulated hHSPC were transduced in presence of dNTPs delivered at different time points prior to CsH/LV exposure. Percentages of transduced cells expressed as fold increase versus CsH (mean \pm SD, $n=3$). (C) Intracellular dNTP levels were measured in unstimulated hHSPC 24h post transduction in presence of dNTPs alone or CsH alone ($n=1$). (D-E) Relative gene expression levels of RRM1 (D) and RRM2 (E) in unstimulated and stimulated hHSPC from the same donors (mean \pm SD; $n=3$; unpaired t-test). (F-G) Gene expression levels of RRM1 (F) and RRM2 (G) in unstimulated hHSPC 16h upon delivery of single dNTPs or a mix of all dNTPs, expressed as fold vs UT control condition (mean \pm SD; $n=3$). Statistical significance is for * $P<0.05$ and ** $P<0.01$.

Figure S4

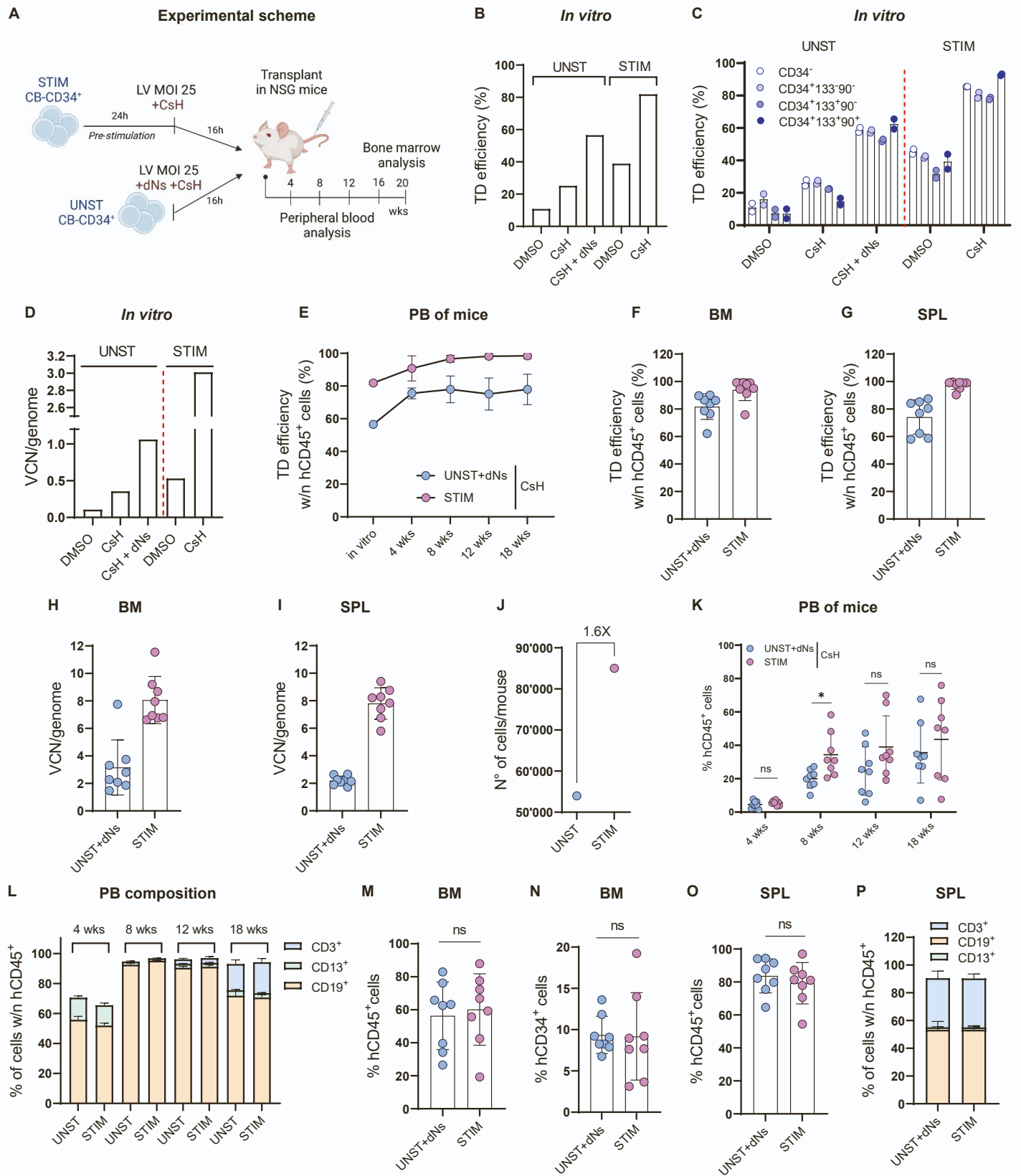


Figure S4. Cord blood-derived unstimulated human HSPC transduced in presence of CsH and dNs showed high engraftment and stable gene marking levels *in vivo*. (A) Experimental scheme of the transplant experiment. Human CD34⁺ cells from cord blood were pre-stimulated 24h with a cocktail of early active cytokines before transduction with a LV (MOI=25) in presence or not of 8 μ M CsH or kept unstimulated and transduced immediately after thawing with a LV (MOI=25) in presence or not of CsH and 500 μ M mix of all dNs. Cells from the stimulated + CsH and unstimulated + CsH + dNs conditions were then injected 16h post transduction by T₀ equivalent into NSG mice, while the other conditions were maintained only for the *in vitro* analysis (n=1 experiment; n=8 mice per group). (B-C) *In vitro* transduction efficiency was assessed 5 days post transduction in the bulk population of HSPC (B) and in the indicated subpopulations (C). (D) *In vitro* VCN/genome were measured 14 days post transduction. (E) Transduction efficiencies, measured as percentages of GFP⁺ cells within the hCD45⁺ cells, in the peripheral blood of mice from the two experimental groups (mean \pm SD; n=8). (F-G) Transduction efficiencies, measured as % of GFP⁺ cells within the hCD45⁺ cells, in bone marrow (F) and spleen (G) at 20 weeks post-transplant (mean \pm SEM; n=8). (H-I) VCN/genome were measured in the bone marrow (H) and spleen (I) at 20 weeks post-transplant (mean \pm SEM; n=8). (J) N^o of cells injected into mice for each experimental group was counted immediately before transplantation. (K) Engraftment levels in the peripheral blood of mice from the two experimental groups was evaluated at the indicated time points (mean \pm SD; n=8 mice per group). (L) The cellular composition of peripheral blood of the mice was analyzed at the indicated time points. (M) Engraftment levels in the bone marrow at 20 weeks post-transplant (mean \pm SD; n=8, “ns” represents non statistical significance). (N) Percentages of hCD34⁺ cells within hCD45⁺ in the bone marrow at 20 weeks (mean \pm SD; n=8, “ns” represents non statistical significance). (O) Engraftment levels in the spleen at 20 weeks post-transplant (mean \pm SD; n=8, “ns” represents non statistical significance). (P) Cellular composition of the spleen was evaluated at 20 weeks post-transplant (mean \pm SD; n=8).

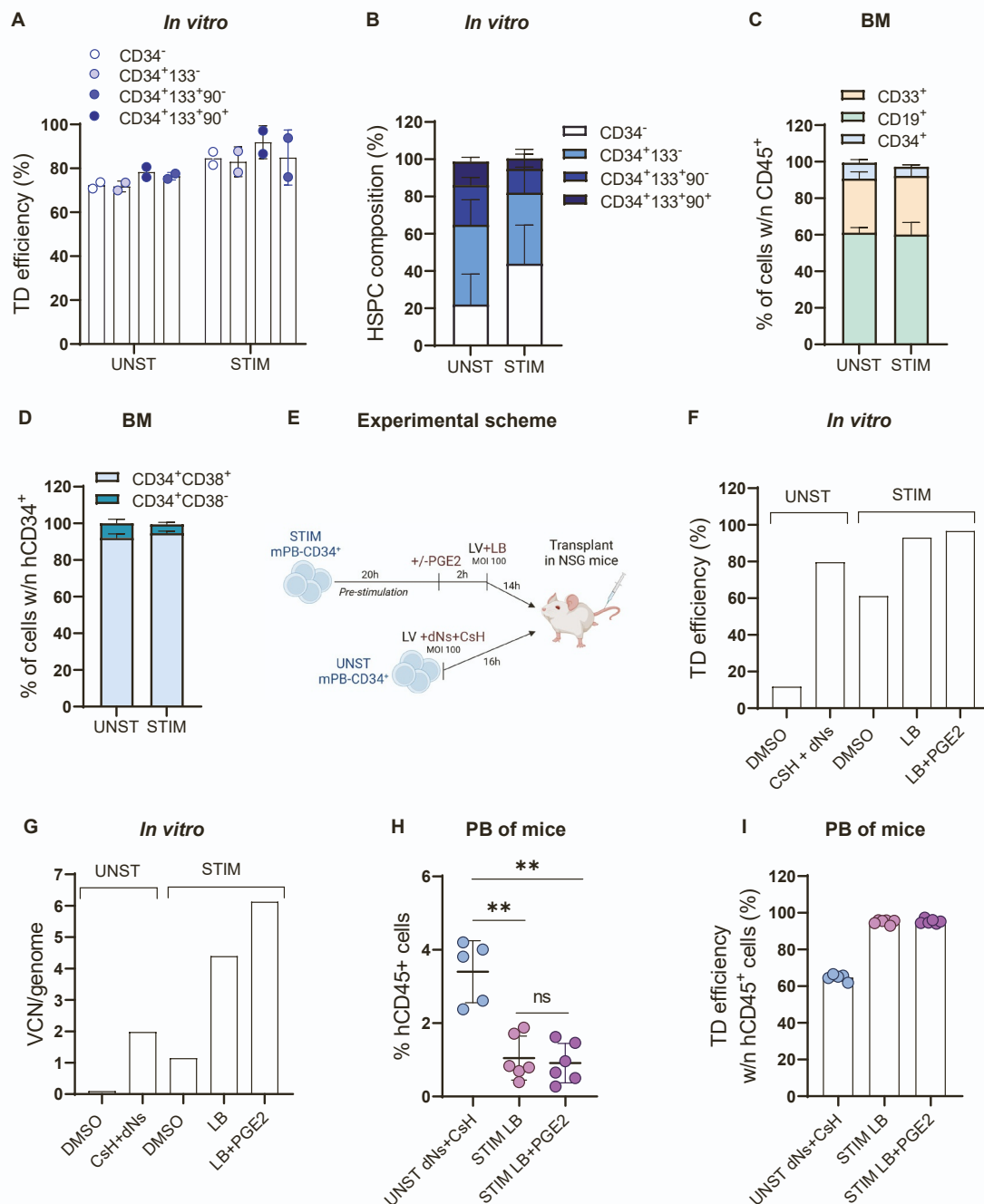


Figure S5. CsH+dNs-transduced unstimulated HSPC show superior long-term engraftment. Related to figure 5. (A) *In vitro* transduction efficiency was assessed 5 days post transduction in the indicated HSPC subpopulations (mean \pm SD, n=2). (B) The composition of *in vitro* cultured HSPC was evaluated 5 days post transduction (mean \pm SD, n=2). (C) Cell composition of the bone marrow at 13 weeks (mean \pm SEM; n=13-16). (D) Cell composition of the hCD34⁺ fraction in the bone marrow (mean \pm SEM; n=6-7 from one experiment). (E) Experimental scheme of the transplant experiment. Human CD34⁺ cells from mobilized peripheral blood were pre-stimulated 20 hours with a cocktail of cytokines. PGE2 was then added to one group of cells. After 2 hours from PGE2 exposure all cells were transduced with a LV (MOI=100) in presence of LentiBOOST (LB). After 14 hours 500⁺000 cells were injected into NSG mice. In parallel, cells were kept unstimulated and transduced immediately after thawing with a LV (MOI=100) in presence of CsH and 500 μ M mix of all dNs and 500⁺000 cells were injected 16h post transduction into NSG mice (n=1 experiment; n=5-6 mice per group). (F) *In vitro* transduction efficiency was assessed 5 days post transduction in the bulk population of HSPC. (G) *In vitro* VCN/genome were measured 14 days post transduction. (H) Engraftment levels in the peripheral blood of mice from the two experimental groups was evaluated at 4 weeks after transplant (mean \pm SD; n=5-6 mice per group; Mann Whitney test, statistical significance is for **P<0.01). (I) Transduction efficiencies, measured as percentages of GFP⁺ cells within the hCD45⁺ cells, in the peripheral blood of mice from the two experimental groups (mean \pm SD; n=5-6 mice per group).