## SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURE LEGENDS

Supplementary Fig. 1. Schematic of targeting vector and homologous recombination. *A*, Diagram of targeting plasmid. Restriction fragments of 2.8 kb ("Short arm") and 7.7 kb ("Long arm") of mouse  $\alpha$ 1(I) collagen DNA were cloned into the OSDupDel vector. The short arm contains the mutated 5' stem-loop sequence ("SL Mutation"). The arms were cloned on either side of a neomycin resistance gene ("Neo"), which is flanked by loxP sites. The plasmid also contains ampicillin ("amp") and thymidine kinase ("tk") selection cassettes; *Eco* RI restriction sites are located within the SL mutation sequence and the neo cassette. *B*, Representation of targeted recombination. *Top*, mouse  $\alpha$ 1(I) collagen genomic DNA; only the first 3 exon regions are indicated. *Middle*, targeting vector sequence, including the SL mutation in exon 1 and thymidine kinase and neomycin resistance cassettes. *Bottom*, the product of a homologous recombination event. Hatched lines represent homologous sequence between genomic and construct DNA. *E*, *Eco* RI restriction endonuclease sites.

Supplementary Fig. 2. Introduction of the SL mutant construct did not affect splicing of  $\alpha 1(I)$  collagen mRNA. *A*, Schematic of PCR strategy. Following reverse transcription of the RNA, the resulting cDNA was PCR-amplified using a sense primer which bound the first exon of the mouse  $\alpha 1(I)$  collagen message; the antisense primer bound a region of the second exon. Inefficient or non-splicing of the message would result in a 3020-bp product, while proper splicing would generate a 290-bp product. *B*, Results of RT-PCR. 293 cells were transfected with SL mutant plasmid (*Tr*) or empty vector (*Un*). RNA was harvested 48 hours post-transfection and reverse-transcribed followed by PCR using the described  $\alpha 1(I)$  collagen primers (*C*). 18S primers were used as positive control for reverse transcription. -, water template; *3T3*, RNA from NIH3T3 cells used as positive control for spliced collagen expression; *M*, 100-bp (left) and 1-kb (right) DNA ladders; sizes are indicated to left of markers. In the case of multiple bands in the same lane, products are delineated on the gel as either collagen (*C*) or 18S.

Supplementary Fig. 3. Southern blot analysis for SL mutant. Schematic of Southern blot approach (Figure 1). Proper homologous recombination results in the introduction of two new *Eco* RI restriction sites. Digestion of mutant genomic DNA with *Eco* RI followed by hybridization with a probe for homologous recombination (*"Recomb"*) generates a 4.1-kb fragment (Figure 1); hybridization with a probe for the neomycin cassette (*"Neo"*) results in a 10.3-kb band (Figure1). Hybridization of digested wild-type DNA with *Recomb* produces a 13.9-kb fragment; no band is present with *Neo*. Thicker lines represent endogenous DNA; thinner lines represent recombined mutant construct DNA. *C*, Representative Southern blot. DNA from isolated embryonic stem cell clones was digested with *Eco* RI; the resulting fragments were separated by gel electrophoresis followed by transfer to nylon membrane. The membrane was hybridized with the *Recomb* probe (*top*), stripped, and re-probed with *Neo* (*bottom*). Lanes 7 and 8 represent two positive heterozygous clones.

Supplementary Fig. 4. Mutation of the 5' SL did not affect  $\alpha 2(I)$  collagen mRNA levels in MEFs. A, Representative RPA using  $\alpha 2(I)$  collagen probe. RNA from wild-type (+/+) and mutant (-/-) MEFs was incubated with  $\alpha 2(I)$  collagen riboprobe; each lane represents a separate cell isolation. *L*, DNA ladder (fragment sizes indicated to left of gel); *C*, undigested mouse  $\alpha 2(I)$  collagen riboprobe; *G*, undigested mouse GAPDH riboprobe; *t*, yeast tRNA; *3T3*, NIH3T3 RNA. Arrows: *G*, protected GAPDH; *C*, protected mouse  $\alpha 2(I)$  collagen riboprobe. B, Result of 4 independent RPAs.  $\alpha 2(I)$  collagen-specific bands were quantitated and normalized to GAPDH values. Data is expressed as relative amount of message vs. wild-type MEFs (N=12). For all graphs, error bars represent S.E.M.





Supplementary Figure 1 Parsons et al.

Α

В





Supplementary Figure 2 Parsons et al.



**Recomb** Probe

Neo Probe

Supplementary Figure 3 Parsons et al.







Supplementary Figure 4 Parsons et al.