



Figure S4. GEC cultured on glass coverslips were incubated for 24 hr with serum-free DMEM, followed by conditioned media previously harvested from quiescent *Itgb8*^{+/+} (A) or *Itgb8*^{-/-} MC (B), DMEM supplemented with TGF- β 1 (2.5 ng/ml, C) or DMEM only (D) for 16 hr at 37° C. GEC were then washed in PBS, fixed in paraformaldehyde and incubated with rabbit monoclonal anti-phospho-Smad2/3 IgG (1 hr, room temp), followed by FITC-conjugated goat anti-rabbit IgG (1 hr, room temp). Cells were examined at 400X magnification from six different fields and counted for nuclear staining of phospho-Smad2/3 as an index of TGF- β bioactivity. A nuclear-stained phospho-SMAD2/3 cell is marked by an arrow, whereas a neighboring, negative cell is shown with an asterisk.