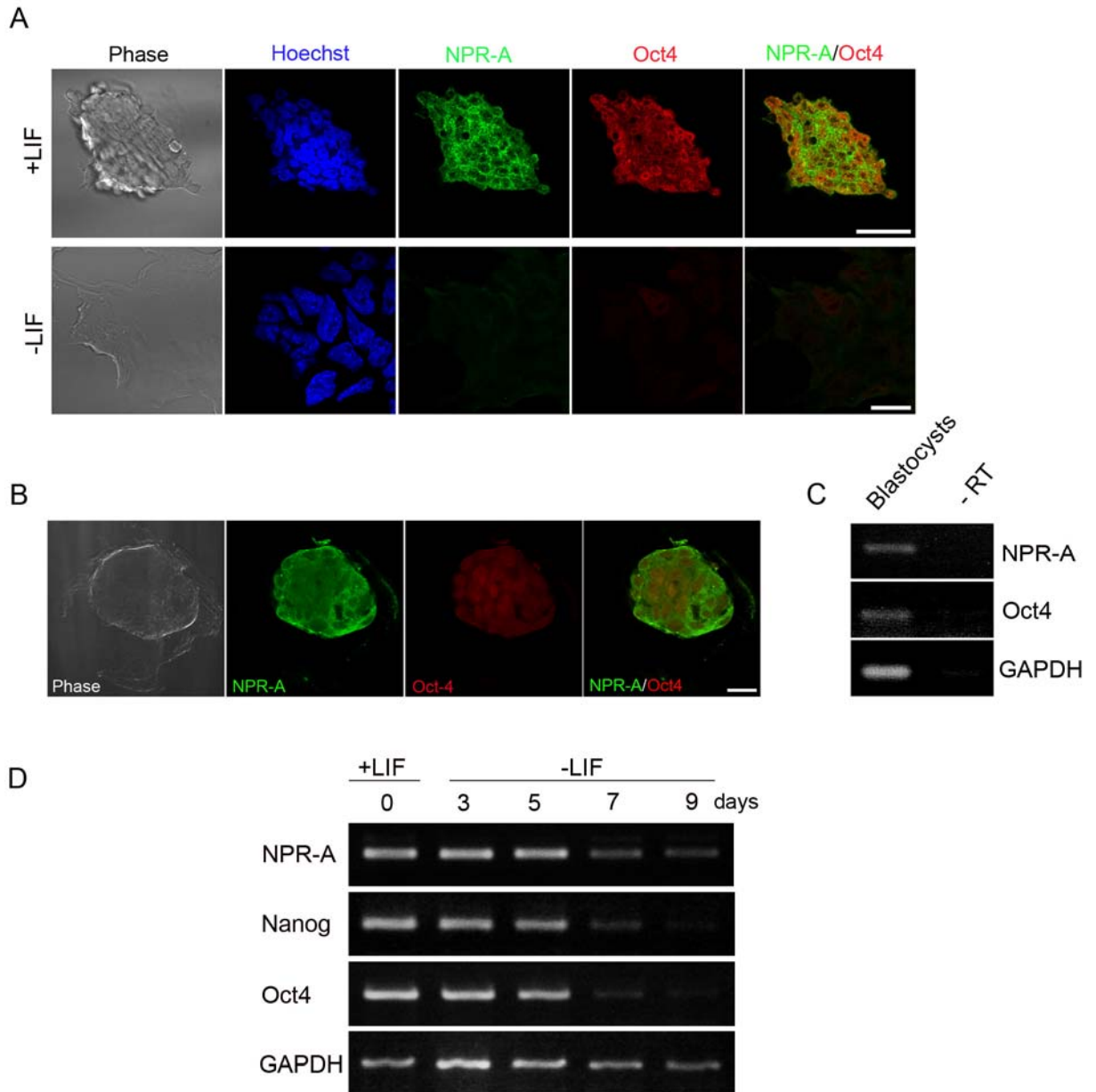


Supplementary Figure 1



Supplementary Figure 1. Expression of NPR-A in murine ES cells, pre-implantation embryos and during ES cell differentiation. (A) Double-immunofluorescence images of ES cells cultured with (+) leukemia inhibitory factor (LIF) in the ES cell medium (*upper panels*) or without (-) LIF for 5 days in the differentiation medium (*lower panels*), stained with antibodies against the ES cell marker Oct4 and NPR-A. Note that the differentiated

(Oct4-negative) cells are also negative for NPR-A. (B) Double-immunofluorescence images of 3.5-day-old blastocysts stained with antibodies against NPR-A and Oct-4. (C) RT-PCR analysis of the mRNA levels of NPR-A and Oct4 in 3.5-day-old blastocysts. (– RT) indicates PCR reaction carried out using samples without reverse transcriptase. (D) RT-PCR analysis of the mRNA levels of NPR-A and pluripotency factors (Oct4 and Nanog) during embryoid bodies (EBs) formation. ES cells were differentiated *in vitro* by culturing in hanging drops to form EBs. Scale bars = 20 μm .