

b



GRP_206326_at DIRAS3_215506_s_at THBD_203887_s_at RGS4_204337_at CORO2B_209789_at FADS2_202218_s_at DCBLD2_213865_at PYGB_201481_s_at GPM6B_209167_at EDNRA_204464_s_at RASSF2_203185_at DUSP6_208891_at PLAT_201860_s_at TMEM35_219685_at PTGER2_206631_at POSTN_210809_s_at SCARA3_219416_at CLU_208791_at SLC6A15_206376_at NPTX1_204684_at DPP4_203717_at ABCA8_204719_at MSX1_205932_s_at AKR1C3_209160_at KCTD12_212192_at COL6A1_213428_s_at LIF_205266_at IFI27_202411_at CA12_214164_x_at CXCL1_204470_at INSIG1_201627_s_at SCD_200832_s_at CXCL6_206336_at

Figure S6 Legend

a) Immortalised HCEC-CDK4-TERT (Zante) cells preserve a similar transcriptional profile to parent primary HCEC cultures

Gene expression profiles were compared from early passage proliferating cultures of primary HCEC, corneal keratocytes (EK1.Br), two strains of human diploid fibroblasts (HCA2 and WI38), and HCEC-CDK4-TERT at PD52 (Zante Early) and PD193 (Zante Late). Differentially expressed genes were discovered by ANOVA. The heatmap shows hierarchical clustering of the top 377 significantly differentially expressed probesets (FDR < 1 x 10⁻⁶). The colour scheme indicates expression in log₂-space for each probeset relative to the experiment-wide (i.e. row) median. Red indicates upregulation relative to the row median and green indicates lower expression relative to the median.

b) Expression of HCEC-specific transcripts is largely retained in the immortalised HCEC-CDK4-TERT (Zante) cell line

Thirty-three genes had previously been identified (Kipling *et al*, 2009, Exp Eye Res 88 277-285) that exhibited high expression levels in primary HCEC cultures compared with corneal keratocytes (strain EK1.Br) and two human diploid fibroblast strains (WI38 and HCA2), and are listed in Table S2. This 33-gene HCEC signature was used to heatmap visual data from HCEC, fibroblasts, keratocytes, and Zante at early and late stages. The colour scheme indicates expression in \log_2 -space for each probeset relative to the experiment-wide (i.e. row) median. Red indicates upregulation relative to the median.