## Supporting Information: File 3

Table 1: Cell lineage content of erythroblast cultures **before** magnetic bead enrichment. Erythroid cells are defined as expressing CD71+CD235a+ or CD71+CD235a- and labelled with anti-bodies described in materials and methods. T and B lymphocytes were identified by flow cytometry using fluorochrome-conjugated antibodies specific to CD3 and CD19; macrophages were identified using antibodies specific to CD14.

Donor	Proportion of live cells (%)			
	Erythroid	Lymphoid	Macrophage	
1	21	78	0.2	
2	14	85	1.4	
3	13	86	0.4	
4	52	46	2.3	

Table 2: Cell lineage content of cells used **following** magnetic bead enrichment for erythroid cells. The proportion of live events acquired is shown to demonstrate the biologically responsive component of the culture used for micro-array and qPCR (see materials and methods for details)

Donor	Use		Proportion of live cells (%)			
	Array	qPCR	Erythroid	Lymphoid	Macrophage	
1	yes	yes	97	0.1	Not determined	
2	yes	yes	98	0.2	Not determined	
3	no	yes	94	0.7	Not determined	
4	no	yes	95	2	1.5	

Table 3: Viability of erythroblasts in untreated cultures 24 hours after magnetic bead isolation to demonstrate validity of culture conditions.

Donor	Use		Viable cells (%)	
	Array	qPCR	Erythroid	
1	yes	yes	97	
2	no	yes	98	
3	no	yes	99	
4	no	yes	98	