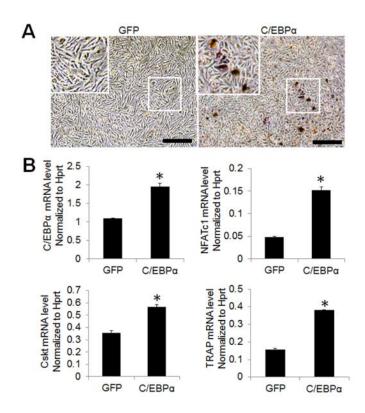
## **Supplemental Information**

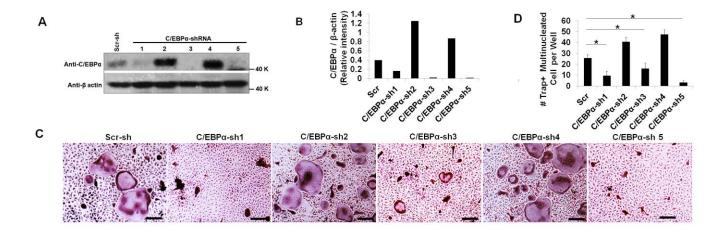
CCAAT/enhancer binding protein a (C/EBPa) is important for osteoclast differentiation and activity\*

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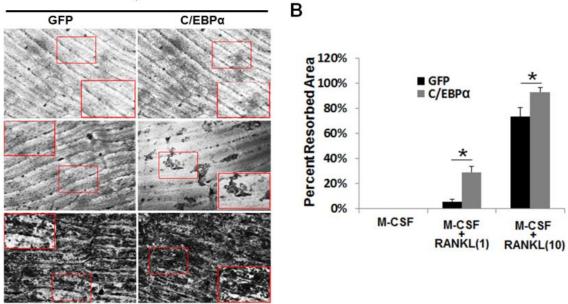


SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE 1. C/EBP $\alpha$  overexpression induces OC lineage commitment in the absence of RANKL. A, MBM cells expressing GFP control (GFP) or Flag-C/EBP $\alpha$  (C/EBP $\alpha$ ) were treated with M-CSF (10 ng/ml) alone for 4 days. Cultures from three independent experiments were then stained for TRAP activity. Scale bars are 200  $\mu$ m B, MBM cells expressing GFP or C/EBP $\alpha$  were cultured with M-CSF (10 ng/ml) alone for 3 days. Gene expression was assessed by qPCR using Hprt as a loading control in three independent experiments. Bars show averages  $\pm$  S.D. \*, p < 0.05.

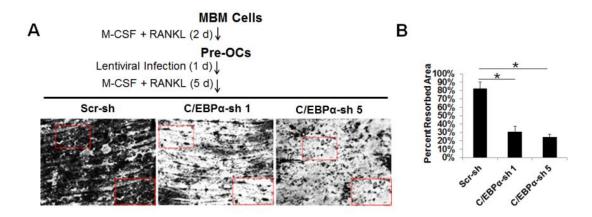


SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE 2. **C/EBPa** silencing inhibits osteoclastogenesis. *A*, MBM cells expressing Scramble shRNA control (Scr-sh) or various C/EBPa shRNA constructs (C/EBPa-sh 1-5) were treated with M-CSF (10 ng/ml) and RANKL (10 ng/ml) for 48 hours and then submitted to Western blot analysis using  $\beta$ -actin as loading control. *B*, quantification for A is shown as relative intensity of C/EBPa expression. *C*, MBM cells expressing Scr-sh or C/EBPa shRNA 1-5 (C/EBPa-sh1-5) were treated with M-CSF (10 ng/ml) plus RANKL (10 ng/ml) for 4 days. All cultures were then stained for TRAP activity. *D*, quantification for *C* is shown from three independent experiments. Scale bars are 200  $\mu$ m. Bars show averages  $\pm$  S.D. \*, p < 0.05.





SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE 3. **C/EBP\alpha overexpression can stimulate bone resorption by OCs from hematoxylin staining of bone slices**. *A*, MBM cells seeded on bone slices were first treated with M-CSF (10 ng/ml) and RANKL (10 ng/ml) for 2 days (d) before infection with retrovirus encoding GFP control (GFP) or Flag-C/EBP $\alpha$  (C/EBP $\alpha$ ) for 1 day. The treatments were then continued for five additional days. The bone slices were stained by hematoxylin for analysis of the resorption pits. *B*, quantification for the bone resorption shown in A for three independent experiments. Numbers in parenthesis show concentration in ng/ml. *Bars* show mean  $\pm$  S.D. \*, p < 0.05.



SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE 4. C/EBP $\alpha$  silencing abrogates bone resorption by OCs from hematoxylin staining of bone slices. *A*, MBM cells seeded on bone slices were first treated with M-CSF (10 ng/ml) and RANKL (10 ng/ml) for 2 days (d) before infection with lentivirus encoding Scramble shRNA control (Scrsh) or C/EBP $\alpha$ -shRNA constructs 1 or 5 (C/EBP $\alpha$ -sh 1 or 5) for 1 day. The treatments were then continued for five additional days. The bone slices were stained by hematoxylin for analysis of the resorption pits. *B*, quantification for the bone resorption shown in A from three independent experiments. Numbers in parenthesis show concentration in ng/ml. *Bars* show mean  $\pm$  S.D. \*, p < 0.05.