

Supplemental Material: Epistasis between TIFAB and miR-146a, neighboring genes in del(5q) MDS

Supplemental Methods

Mice and bone marrow transplantation.

Tifab^{-/-} C57BL/6 mice were described previously¹. miR-146a^{-/-} C57BL/6 mice were obtained from Dr. David Baltimore as previously described². All animals were bred and housed in the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care-accredited animal facility of Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. For non-competitive BM transplantation, BM mononuclear cells ($0.3\text{-}3 \times 10^6$) from C7BL/6 wild-type, *Tifab^{-/-}*, miR-146a^{-/-}, or *Tifab^{-/-}*;miR-146a^{-/-} mice were injected *i.v.* into lethally-radiated (7.0 Gy and 4.75 Gy after 3 hours) syngeneic recipient Boy/J mice.

BM and PB analysis

For cytopsins, $2.5\text{-}5 \times 10^5$ BM cells were spun onto slide at 300 rpm for 5 minutes and then stained with Wright-Giemsa. For BM sections, tibias were fixed in formalin and then stained with hematoxylin and eosin. Complete blood counts were performed on peripheral blood isolated from the tail vein every 4 weeks and analyzed using the Drew Scientific Hemavet 950.

Quantitative PCR analysis

RNA was extracted from cells and purified with Trizol Reagent (Life Technologies 15596-026) or Quick-RNA MiniPrep Kit (Zymo Research R1055). cDNA was generated using a high capacity RNA to cDNA kit (Life Technologies 4387406 or 4368814). qPCR was carried out using Taqman Master mix and probes (Life Technologies): *Tifab* (Mm0421026_m1) and *Gapdh* (Mm99999915_g1). qPCR was performed on an Applied Biosystems StepOne Plus Real-Time PCR System. miR-146a expression was performed as previously described³.

Clonogenic progenitor assays

Hematopoietic clonogenic progenitor frequencies were determined by plating 2×10^5 BM cells/ml isolated from transplanted wild-type, *Tifab^{-/-}*, miR-146a^{-/-}, or *Tifab^{-/-}*;miR-146a^{-/-} mice in methylcellulose media containing human erythropoietin, murine SCF, murine IL-3, and human IL-6 (Methocult M3434; Stem Cell Technologies). Colonies were scored after 10 days.

Flow cytometry analysis

Antibodies used for flow cytometric analysis of BM and PB cells are described previously¹. All FACS analyses were performed on BD FACS Aria or Canto machines. FACS data analysis was performed using BD FACSDiva or FlowJo software.

Patient samples

Informed consent was obtained according to protocols approved by the review board of Cleveland Clinic. Diagnoses were reviewed at Cleveland Clinic and adapted, when required, to WHO 2008 criteria. For microarray and SNP analysis, BM mononuclear cells were isolated from MDS/AML patients, as previously described².

RNA sequencing analysis

Transcriptomes of lineage⁻cKit⁺ BM cells from wild-type (WT, n=3), *Tifab*^{-/-} knockout (TIFAB-KO, n=3), *miR-146a*^{-/-} (miR146a-KO, n=3), *Tifab*^{-/-}; *miR-146a*^{-/-} mice (dKO, n=4) were compared by standard RNA-seq analysis methods. Total RNA was amplified using the Ovation RNA-Seq System v2 (NuGEN) according to the manufacturer's protocol. The libraries were prepared with the Nextera XT DNA Sample Preparation kit (Illumina Technologies). 1 ng of cDNA was suspended in Tagment DNA Buffer, and tagmentation (fragmentation and tagging with the adaptors) was performed with the Nextera enzyme (Amplicon Tagment Mix), incubating at 55°C for 10 min. NT Buffer was then added to neutralize the samples. Libraries were prepared by PCR with the Nextera PCR Master Mix, and 2 Nextera Indexes (N7XX, and N5XX) according to the following program: one cycle of 72°C for 3min, one cycle of 98°C for 30s, 12 cycles of 95°C for 10s, 55°C for 30s, and 72°C for 1min, and one cycle of 72°C for 5min. The purified cDNA was captured on an Illumina flow cell for cluster generation. Libraries were sequenced on the Illumina HiSeq2500 following the manufacturer's protocol. Paired-end reads were aligned to UCSC mm10 genome (downloaded from Illumina's iGenomes repository; https://support.illumina.com/sequencing/sequencing_software/igenome.html) using TopHat⁴ and mouse mm10-refseq gene GTF file. FeatureCounts was used for read counting⁵. Differentially expressed genes were predicted by three independent methods including limma/voom^{6,7}, edgeR⁸, and DESeq2⁹. FDR < 0.05 and fold change > 2x were used for default cutoffs.

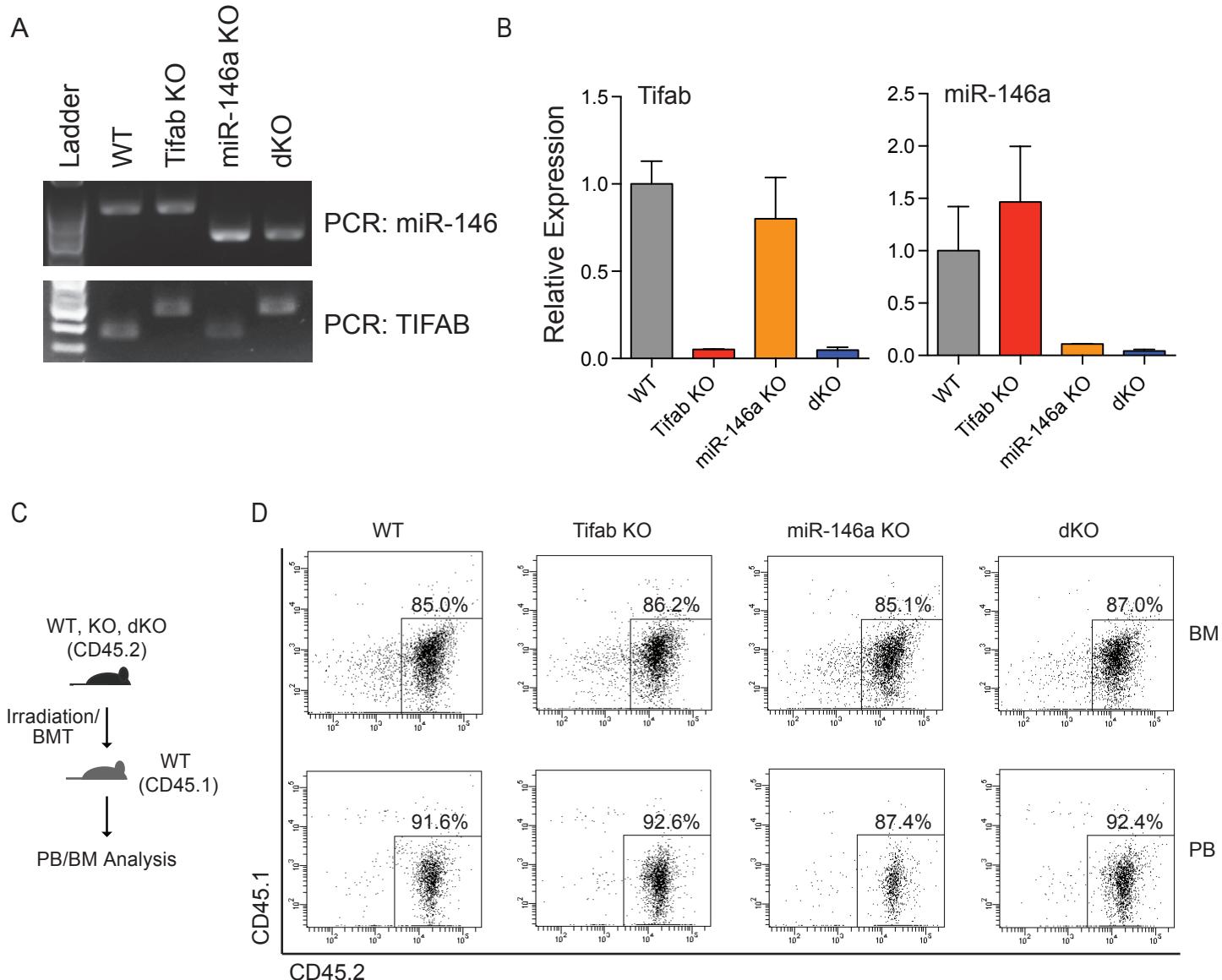
Synergy gene analysis

To examine synergistic effects, we adopted a concept used in McMurray *et al*¹⁰. Briefly, *a* = fold change value for a given gene in the miR-146a^{-/-} group, *b* = fold change value for the same gene in the *Tifab*^{-/-} group, and *d* = mean expression value for this gene in the dKO group. Then synergy score was calculated using $(a+b)/d$ if $d>1$ and $d/a + d/b$ if $d<1$.

Supplemental References

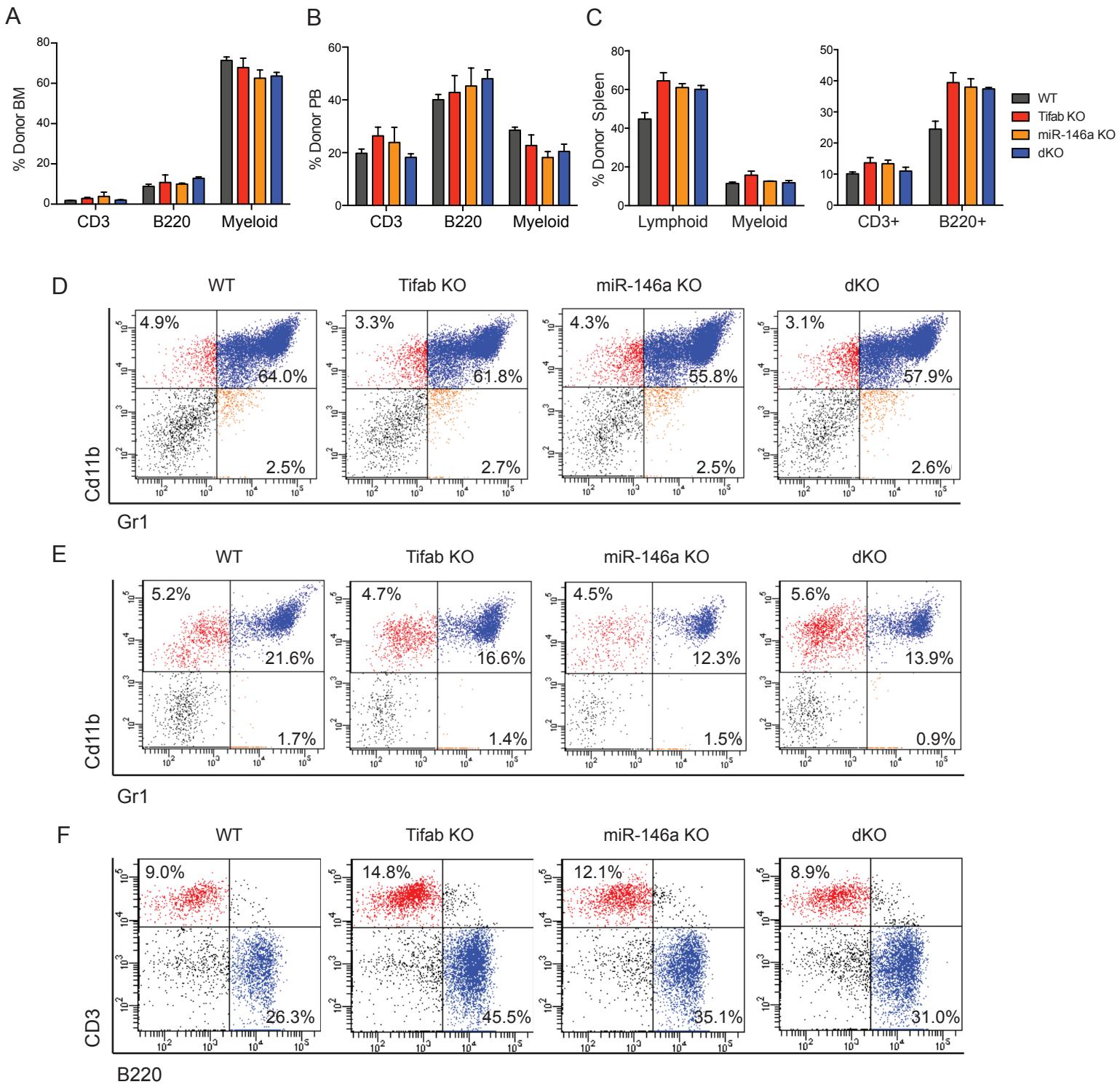
1. Varney, M.E. *et al.* Loss of Tifab, a del(5q) MDS gene, alters hematopoiesis through derepression of Toll-like receptor-TRAF6 signaling. *J Exp Med* **212**, 1967-85 (2015).
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Supplemental Figure 1



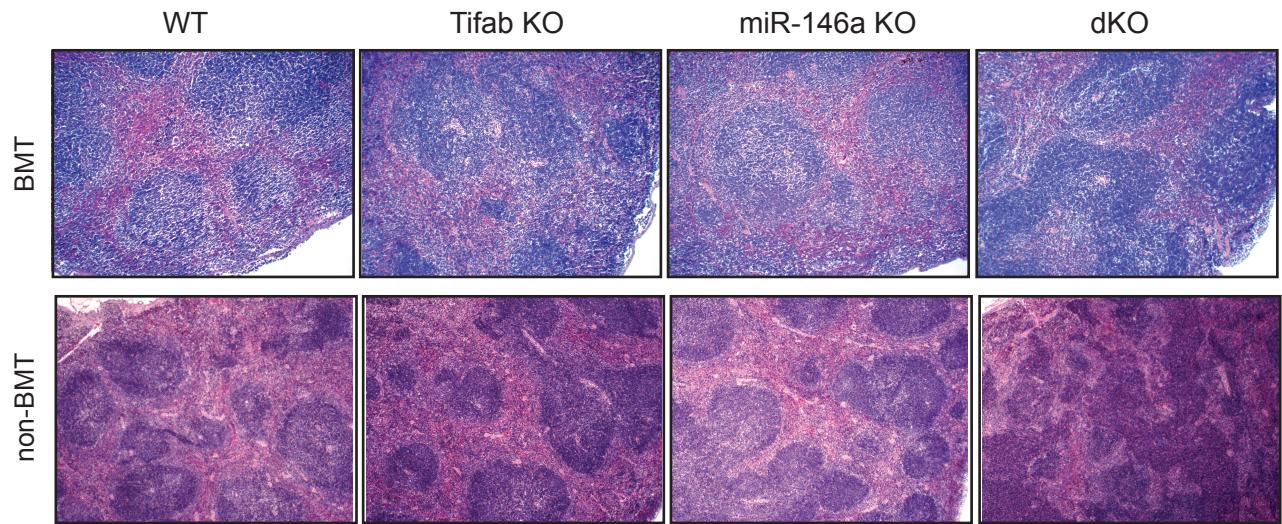
Generation of Tifab and miR-146a double knockout mice. (A) PCR was performed using primers to detect wild-type or deleted miR-146a and Tifab alleles on genomic DNA. (B) Quantitative RT-PCR was performed to measure Tifab mRNA or miR-146a from BM mononuclear cells. (C) Overview of transplantation of BM cells from WT, Tifab KO, miR-146a KO, and dKO (CD45.2) mice into lethally-irradiated WT CD45.1 mice. (D) Proportion of donor cells in the peripheral blood and BM of recipient mice ($n = 3$ mice evaluated per group).

Supplemental Figure 2



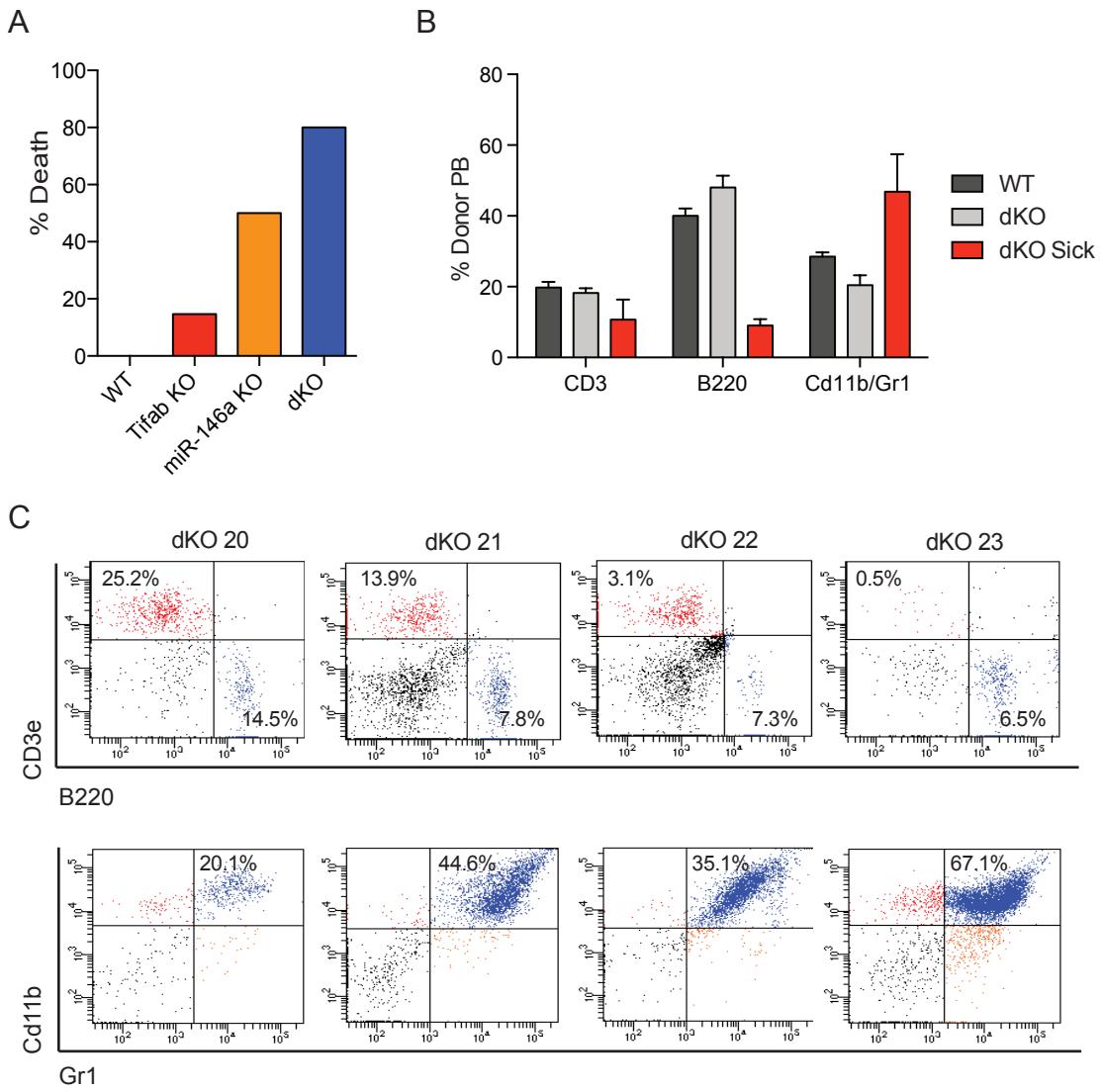
Immunophenotypic analysis of bone marrow, peripheral blood, and spleen. (A-C) Flow cytometric analysis of myeloid (CD11b, Gr1) and lymphoid (CD3, B220) proportions within the BM (A), PB (B), and spleen (C) of transplanted mice. (D-F) Representative flow cytometric plots from BM (D), PB (E), and spleen (F). Percent values within dot blots are calculated from the parent gate.

Supplemental Figure 3



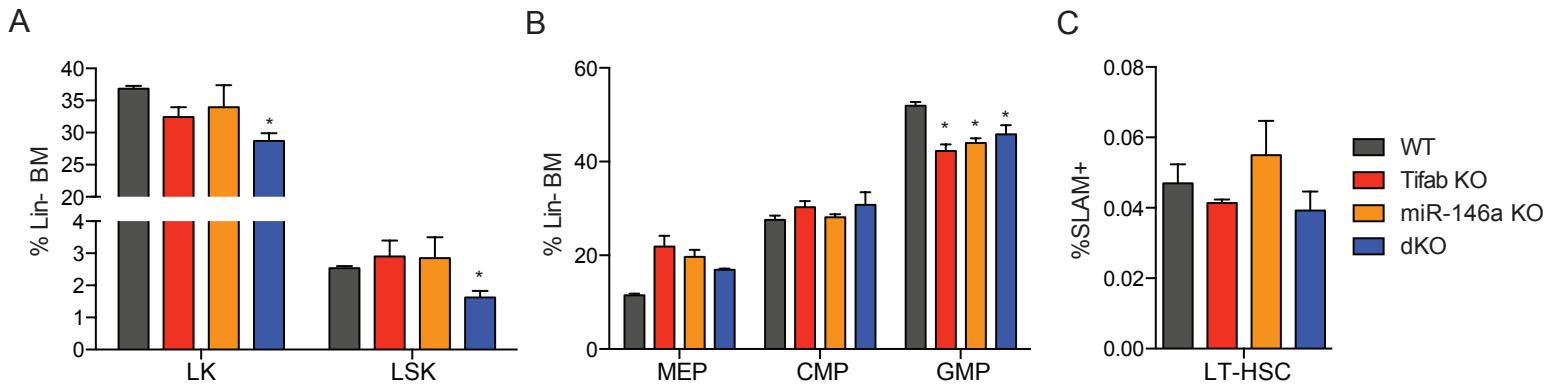
Morphological analysis of spleens. H&E-stained spleen from representative mice prior (non-BMT) or after transplantation (BMT).

Supplemental Figure 4.



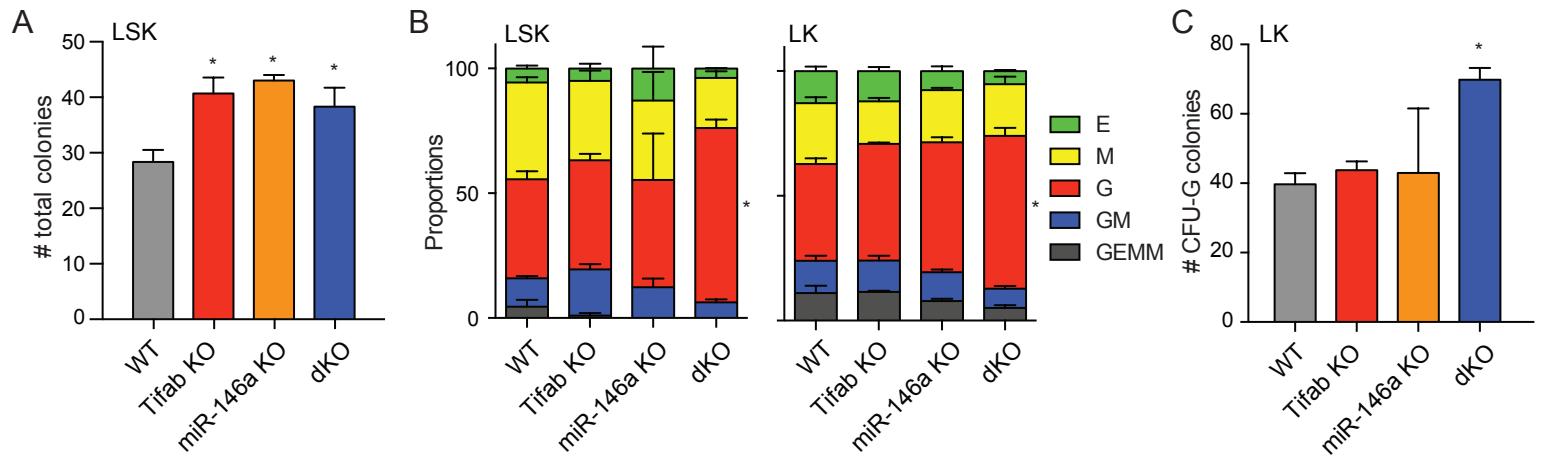
Analysis of moribund mice. (A) Percent of mice became moribund after transplantation. (B) Immunophenotype analysis of PB from WT, dKO, and moribund dKO mice. (C) Representative flow cytometric blots of PB cells from four moribund dKO mice. Percent values within dot blots are calculated from the parent gate.

Supplemental Figure 5.



Analysis of hematopoietic stem/progenitor proportions in the BM. (A) LK and LSK proportions in BM from mice transplanted with WT, Tifab^{-/-}, miR-146a^{-/-}, or dKO BM cells (n = 3). (B) MEP, CMP, and GMP proportions in BM from mice transplanted with WT, Tifab^{-/-}, miR-146a^{-/-}, or dKO BM cells (n = 3). (C) LT-HSC (LSK+ CD150+CD48-) proportions in BM from mice transplanted with WT, Tifab^{-/-}, miR-146a^{-/-}, or dKO BM cells (n = 3). *, P < 0.05; Student's t-test. In all cases, statistical comparisons were made to WT mice.

Supplemental Figure 6.



Analysis of hematopoietic stem/progenitor colony-forming function. (A) Numbers of colony-forming cells in methylcellulose from LSK cells from WT, Tifab^{-/-}, miR-146a^{-/-}, or dKO transplanted mice (n = 3). (B) Proportion of colony-forming cells in methylcellulose from LSK or LK isolated from WT, Tifab^{-/-}, miR-146a^{-/-}, or dKO transplanted mice (n = 3). GM, granulocyte-monocyte; G, granulocyte; M, monocyte; E, erythroid (BFU-E). (C) Numbers of CFU-G from LK cells from WT, Tifab^{-/-}, miR-146a^{-/-}, or dKO transplanted mice (n = 3).*, P < 0.05; Student's t-test as compared to WT.

Supplemental Table 1. Differentially expressed genes in LK

Fox	1.20	0.0001003	0.0174
Fndc7	3.31	0.0001023	0.0176
Rps3a1	-0.61	0.0001044	0.0177
Vwf	-0.68	0.0001048	0.0177
Atap1	0.86	0.0001057	0.0178
Car12	0.90	0.0001065	0.0178
Car1	-0.62	0.0001076	0.0178
Gataeh4	-0.26	0.0001078	0.0178
Gbp7	0.60	0.0001111	0.0181
Gm1821	-1.39	0.0001118	0.0181
Ndrg1	-0.59	0.0001178	0.0189
Ier2	-0.75	0.0001178	0.0189
Gdppg1	1.08	0.0001198	0.0189
Comm4d	-0.88	0.0001198	0.0189
Zfp346	0.76	0.0001207	0.0187
Hmex2	0.93	0.0001259	0.0197
Rpl37a	-0.62	0.0001281	0.0199
Cair	0.67	0.0001292	0.0199
Gda	0.79	0.0001308	0.0208
Lmna	-1.04	0.0001408	0.0214
Rpl13	-0.62	0.0001451	0.0220
Nrnp8	0.60	0.0001473	0.0220
Fancm	0.65	0.0001478	0.0220
Tk3	1.60	0.0001496	0.0220
Neur3	-0.74	0.0001491	0.0220
Zbtb10	-0.84	0.0001503	0.0220
Flnb	0.56	0.0001631	0.0238
Uba52	-0.80	0.0001677	0.0243
Chordc1	0.71	0.0001703	0.0245
Upenn1	0.66	0.0001716	0.0246
Wdr95	3.21	0.0001738	0.0247
Gm6297	1.46	0.0001742	0.0247
Gm10451	3.10	0.0001764	0.0247
Tsc22d1	-0.56	0.0001766	0.0247
Far2	0.79	0.0001814	0.0252
Zfp760	0.96	0.0001820	0.0258
Sat1	0.71	0.0001870	0.0270
Chdh	0.56	0.0002056	0.0270
Il18bp	1.04	0.0002058	0.0273
Paps2	0.64	0.0002090	0.0273
Synt1	0.61	0.0002107	0.0273
Megf8	5.64	0.0002132	0.0274
Kcnr2	0.96	0.0002155	0.0275
Prmt8	-1.12	0.0002157	0.0278
Sqol1	1.39	0.0002276	0.0288
Cd300e	5.49	0.0002286	0.0289
H2-Ab1	0.58	0.0002313	0.0290
Gm10248	-3.82	0.0002337	0.0291
Ubb	-1.54	0.0002374	0.0293
Rgs5	-0.73	0.0002378	0.0293
Sdcas5	0.39	0.0002386	0.0298
Zecar29	0.57	0.0002426	0.0296
Cox4i1	-0.88	0.0002425	0.0297
Tet2	0.57	0.0002454	0.0297
Vcam1	1.23	0.0002485	0.0298
D230n25D16Rik	0.64	0.0002487	0.0298
Sprt1a	6.59	0.0002508	0.0299
Hmgb2	-0.74	0.0002514	0.0299
Impg2	0.68	0.0002631	0.0308
B230219D22Rik	0.59	0.0002627	0.0308
Zfp184	-0.82	0.0002690	0.0314
Rc3h2	0.62	0.00027	0.0314
A630072M18Rik	0.85	0.0002781	0.0322
Szr2	0.65	0.0002951	0.0331
Z330088N13Rik	-1.37	0.0002951	0.0331
Cst	0.64	0.0002913	0.0331
Anp32b	-0.60	0.0002921	0.0331
Zdhnc21	0.57	0.0002928	0.0331
Stbd1	2.43	0.0002964	0.0333
Serinc4	1.22	0.0002978	0.0333
Rgs6	-0.60	0.0003232	0.0336
Dyr5	-0.65	0.0003255	0.0362
Zfp783	0.88	0.0003267	0.0364
Faim3	5.42	0.0003316	0.0364
Med23	0.61	0.0003338	0.0370
Cyp2r1	1.59	0.0003403	0.0371
Gm15915	-0.66	0.0003496	0.0378
Rtm5	0.55	0.0003596	0.0388
Rmt1	0.72	0.0003604	0.0388
Snt2	0.75	0.0003723	0.0399
Gbp5	0.92	0.0003755	0.0400
Gas7	0.92	0.0003806	0.0403
Zfp324	0.90	0.0003808	0.0411
2810403A07Rik	0.60	0.000398	0.0412
Rpl36a	-0.57	0.0003982	0.0413
Zfp494	0.73	0.0004019	0.0419
Sdc5a3	0.69	0.0004081	0.0419
Sik1	-0.64	0.0004094	0.0419
Rassf4	0.59	0.0004076	0.0419
Hus1	0.59	0.0004147	0.0425
Mtr	0.58	0.0004174	0.0426
Kif10	-0.71	0.0004232	0.0429
Rpl48	-0.65	0.0004257	0.0429
Tropo	0.76	0.0004257	0.0429
BC055324	0.63	0.0004277	0.0429
Cybb	0.71	0.0004347	0.0434
Lsa4h	0.54	0.0004446	0.0438
Rpl24	-0.57	0.000444	0.0440
Parme2b	1.43	0.0004464	0.0444
Sdc7a8	0.60	0.0004491	0.0447
Cdk5p2	0.79	0.0004577	0.0448
Hhip	5.66	0.0004609	0.0449
Heatr5b	0.63	0.0004707	0.0457
Met	0.62	0.0004747	0.0458
Rnf11	0.72	0.000477	0.0459
Lig4	1.56	0.0004843	0.0464
Lip61	0.92	0.0004856	0.0464
Psip2	0.70	0.0004901	0.0465
A530099J19Rik	1.94	0.000492	0.0465
Ct2	1.79	0.0004924	0.0465
Srrmp40	-0.59	0.0005215	0.0487
Ear6	1.83	0.0005219	0.0487
Lam5	-0.91	0.0005252	0.0487
Ccd5	0.59	0.0005258	0.0487
Neat1	0.72	0.0005267	0.0487
Pia2g15	1.20	0.0005398	0.0498

Supplemental Table 2. Synergy Genes in dKO LK.

Gene	Relative Expression			SynergyEffect
	miR-146a KO vs WT	Tifab KO vs WT	dKO vs WT	
Dgkk	14.84	13.42	52.88	0.53
Ltf	3.64	5.85	16.93	0.56
Ngp	2.17	3.44	9.78	0.57
Cd300e	45.04	12.87	82.53	0.70
Lypd6	15.53	13.63	40.54	0.72
Mir677	14.84	11.06	28.55	0.91
Gpr84	5.64	4.66	10.30	1.00
Timm8a2	20.60	32.50	52.46	1.01
Sfrp1	14.56	30.72	41.74	1.08
Nrg1	5.93	3.57	8.74	1.09
Abca13	2.32	2.92	4.71	1.11
Gdpgp1	2.12	1.54	3.05	1.20
Neo1	10.16	6.63	13.69	1.23
Acpp	2.42	2.91	4.24	1.26
Ncam1	1.64	2.80	3.53	1.26
Spint1	31.74	12.74	32.83	1.35
Vcam1	2.35	3.63	4.33	1.38
Itga1	1.46	1.80	2.30	1.41
Gramd3	1.65	1.68	2.32	1.43
Stc2	5.78	6.02	8.20	1.44
Csf2ra	1.44	1.47	2.01	1.45
Stard5	1.70	1.54	2.22	1.46
Scgb3a1	12.37	21.75	22.95	1.49
Ifi204	2.67	3.12	3.89	1.49
Clca1	1.58	1.69	2.18	1.50
Kcnj2	1.97	1.69	2.39	1.53
Gbp8	9.97	8.33	11.92	1.53
Higd1b	12.37	11.46	15.37	1.55
Mlxipl	18.86	25.93	28.52	1.57
Slfn2	2.76	3.01	3.66	1.58
Papss2	1.56	1.64	2.02	1.58
Clec5a	2.59	2.70	3.22	1.64
Prkcb	2.69	2.21	2.95	1.66
Ceacam1	1.49	1.43	1.75	1.66

Supplemental Table 3. Del(5q) MDS/AML patient characteristics.

Disease	Risk	TIFAB deletion	miR-146a deletion
sAML	1	Yes	No
MDS	0	Yes	No
MDS	0	Yes	No
sAML	1	Yes	Yes
MDS	1	Yes	Yes
MDS	0	Yes	Yes
MDS	1	Yes	Yes
MDS	1	Yes	Yes
MDS	0	Yes	Yes

Risk: 1, high-risk; 0, low-risk

sAML, secondary AML.