Supplementary Material

Supplementary Methods

Culture of cells on Matrigel®

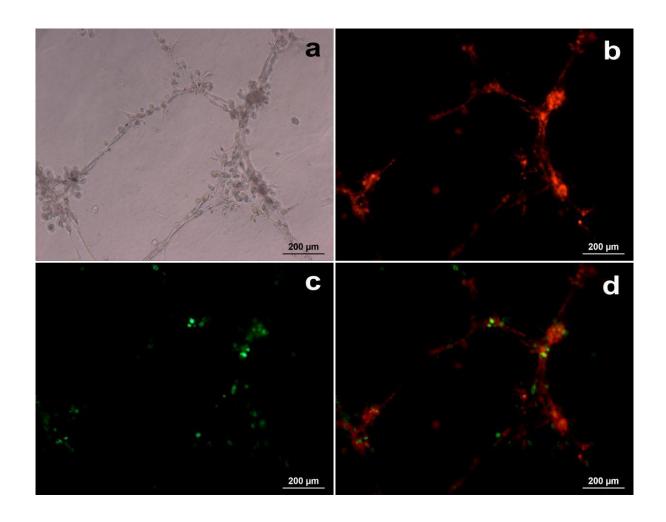
ATMSCs were cultured alone or in a coculture system with the murine EC lineage EOMA (Rio de Janeiro Cell Bank, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil) on Matrigel® (Becton, Dickinson and Company). After coating 12-well culture plates with Matrigel®, cells were seeded at a density of 1.5 x 10⁵ cells per well when cultured alone, or 1.5 x 10⁵ EOMA cells plus 4 x 10⁴ ATMSCs when cocultured. EOMA cells and ATMSCs were stained intracellularly with CM-Dil or DiO (Molecular Probes, Invitrogen™, Eugene, OR, USA), respectively, following the manufacturer's instructions. Vital staining was chosen to observe the behavior of cells during the cultivation. Cocultured cells were analyzed on an Axio Observer Z1 inverted microscope using filter sets 43HE and 38HE (Carl Zeiss, Jena, Germany), respectively. Images were acquired using a digital camera coupled to the microscope (AxioCam MRm Rev.3; Zeiss).

RNA extraction and cDNA synthesis

After culturing cells on Matrigel®, total RNA was extracted using TRIzol® (Life Technologies Corporation, Carlsbad, CA, USA), following the manufacturer's instructions. Synthesis of cDNA was carried out using M-MLV reverse transcriptase enzyme and hexameric random primers from Applied Biosystems (Foster City, CA, USA) following the manufacturer's instructions.

Real-time PCR

Real-time PCR reactions were performed in a Step One Plus termocycler (Applied Biosystems). We used inventoried TaqMan® (Applied Biosystems) gene expression assays to assess the expression of the following genes: GAPDH (Assay ID: Hs02786624_g1), NGFR (Assay ID: Hs00609977_m1), CSPG4 (Assay ID: Hs00361541_g1), and CD34 (Assay ID: Hs00990732_m1). Results are presented as Δ CT values for each gene in relation to the endogenous control, GAPDH. Comparisons were performed using the $2^{-\Delta\Delta CT}$ formula, where Δ CT values from different culture conditions were subtracted in the comparisons.



Supplementary Figure 1: ATMSCs cocultured with EOMA cells for 7 days on Matrigel®. (a) Phase-contrast image of the coculture on Matrigel®. (b) Epifluorescence image of the same field depicted in (a); EOMA cells are shown in red owing to previous intracellular staining with CM-Dil. (c) Epifluorescence image of the same field depicted in (a) and (b); ATMSCs are shown in green owing to previous intracellular staining with DiO. (d) Composite image made by merging the images shown in (b) and (c).

Supplementary Table 1: Real-time PCR gene expression analysis of *NGFR*, *CSPG4*, and *CD34* (which encode CD271, NG2, and CD34, respectively) in ATMSCs, EOMA cells, or ATMSCs cocultured with EOMA cells in 2D or on Matrigel®. Values are shown as Δ CT for each gene.

	ΔCT		
Samples	NGFR	CSPG4	CD34
ATMSCs cultured for 3 days (2D)	12.53	6.58	10.33
EOMA cultured for 3 days (2D)	nd	nd	nd
Coculture for 3 days (2D)	16.37	11.44	nd
ATMSCs cultured on Matrigel® for 3 days	11.39	6.48	nd
EOMA cultured on Matrigel® for 3 days	nd	nd	nd
Coculture on Matrigel® for 3 days	15.83	10.24	nd
ATMSCs cultured on Matrigel® for 7 days	9.46	6.58	10
EOMA cultured on Matrigel® for 7 days	nd	nd	10.88
Coculture on Matrigel® for 7 days	6.29	3.58	7.4

nd: not detected

Supplementary Table 2: Assessment of the expression of *NGFR*, *CSPG4*, and *CD34* in ATMSCs after culture under various conditions using the $2^{-\Delta\Delta CT}$ formula. Each value represents fold-change increase in gene expression from the first condition relative to the second condition in the comparison.

Conditions compared	₂ -ΔΔCT		
	NGFR	CSPG4	CD34
1 - ATMSCs cultured for 3 days (2D)	14.32	29.04	а
2 - Coculture for 3 days (2D)			
1 - ATMSCs cultured on Matrigel® for 3 days	2.20	1.07	b
2 - ATMSCs cultured for 3 days (2D)			
1 - ATMSCs cultured on Matrigel® for 7 days	3.81	0.93	а
2 - ATMSCs cultured on Matrigel® for 3 days			
1 - Coculture on Matrigel® for 3 days	1.45	2.30	nd
2 - Coculture for 3 days (2D)			
1 - Coculture on Matrigel® for 7 days	9	8	6.06
2 - ATMSCs cultured on Matrigel® for 7 days			
1 - Coculture on Matrigel® for 7 days	744.43	101.12	а
2 - Coculture on Matrigel for 3 days			

nd: fluorescence not detected in any of the conditions

a: gene expression detected in the first condition but not in the second condition

b: gene expression detected in the second condition but not in the first condition