

Supplementary figures

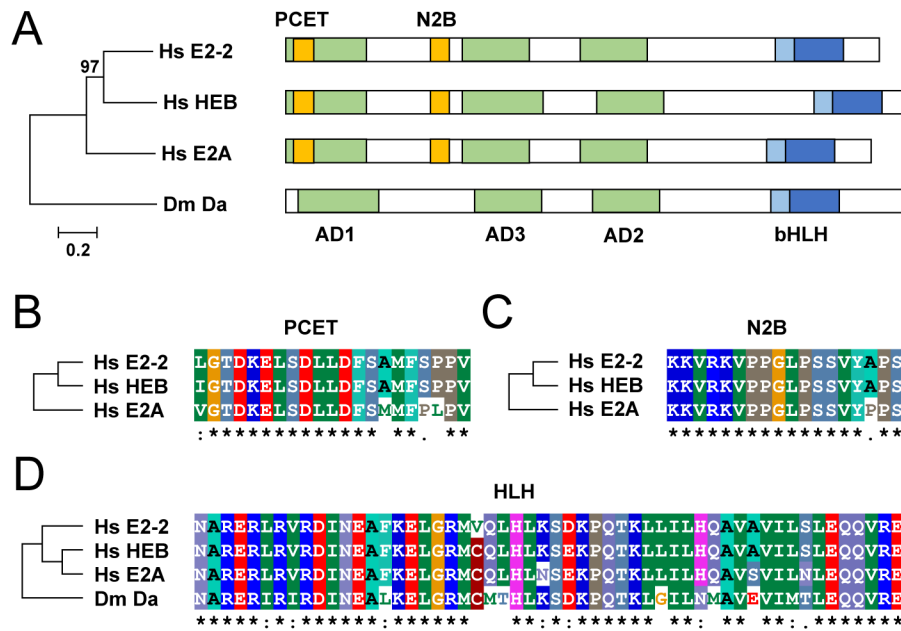


Fig. S1. Homology analysis of E2-2, HEB and E2A. (A) Phylogenetic tree constructed with full-length amino acid sequences of the human (*Hs*) E proteins and the sole fruit fly (*Dm*) homologue, Daughterless (Da). Also shown are their domain architectures, including the PCET (p300/CBP and ETO target) and N2B (NHR2-binding) motifs that directly interact with AML1-ETO. (B and C) Comparison of the PCET (B) and N2B (C) sequences in the three human E proteins. Note that E2-2 and HEB share high similarities in these two motifs, whereas E2A shows different amino acids. (D) Comparison of the HLH domains of the E proteins. Note that, unlike the cases of PCET and N2B, the HLH of E2-2 diverges from those of HEB and E2A.

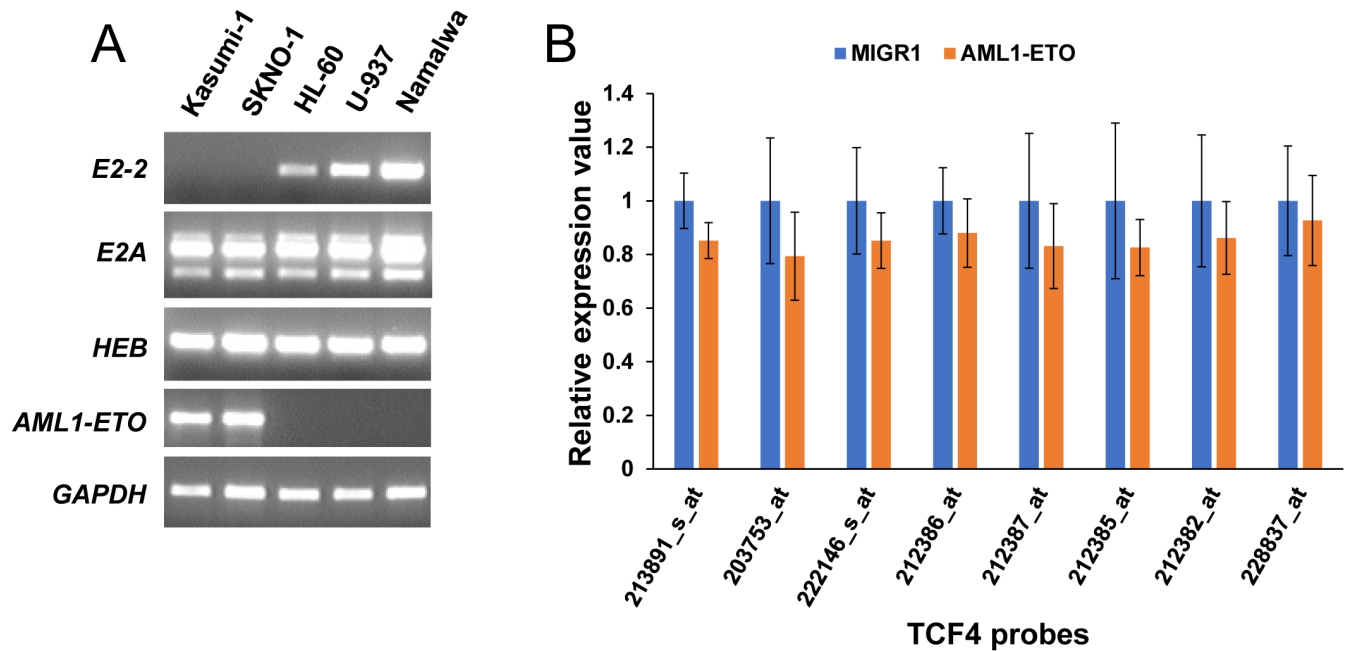


Fig. S2. Expression of *E2-2* in leukemic cell lines and in human $CD34^+$ HSPCs transduced with *AML1-ETO*. (A) RT-PCR analysis of E protein expression in different leukemic cell lines. Although the results overlap with those of Fig. 1B, this separate experiment includes an extra cell line, Namalwa. (B) Microarray data showing that ectopic expression of *AML1-ETO* in human $CD34^+$ cells does not significantly affect *TCF4/E2-2* expression. Each Affymetrix probe value is based on three independent infections of the cells with control vector (*MIGR1*) or *AML1-ETO*; none of these probes shows a significant difference.

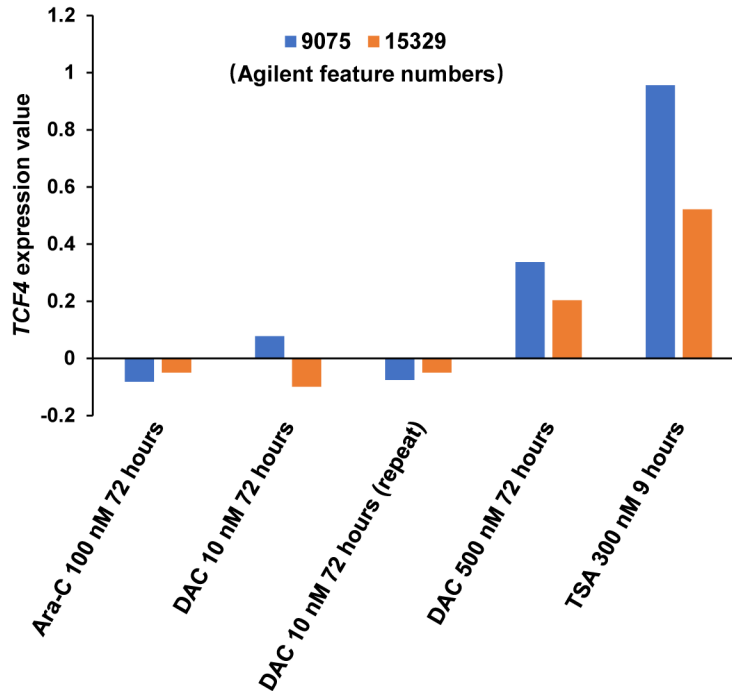


Fig. S3. Upregulation of *E2-2* mRNA in Kasumi-1 cells by DAC and TSA treatments. Microarray-based gene expression data of Kasumi-1 cells under indicated treatments were obtained from Tsai et al., 2012, and were analyzed by the GEO2R program (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/geo2r/>). Note that DAC and TSA at relatively high dosages (500 and 300 nM, respectively) exhibit consistent effects on upregulation of *TCF4/E2-2*. In contrast, Ara-C and a low dosage of DAC (10 nM) have no effect, as the *TCF4/E2-2* mRNA levels in these cells are around or under the base line of the expression value. 9075 and 15329 are two Agilent feature numbers that represent the *TCF4/E2-2* gene.

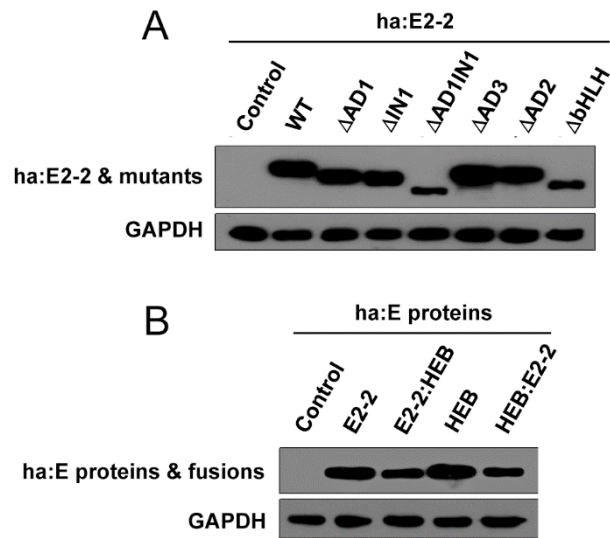


Fig. S4. Western blot results showing proper expression of the E2-2 deletion mutants (A) and E2-2 fusions (B). 293T cells were transfected with plasmids containing indicated HA-tagged proteins and cell lysates were analyzed with antibodies for HA and GAPDH.

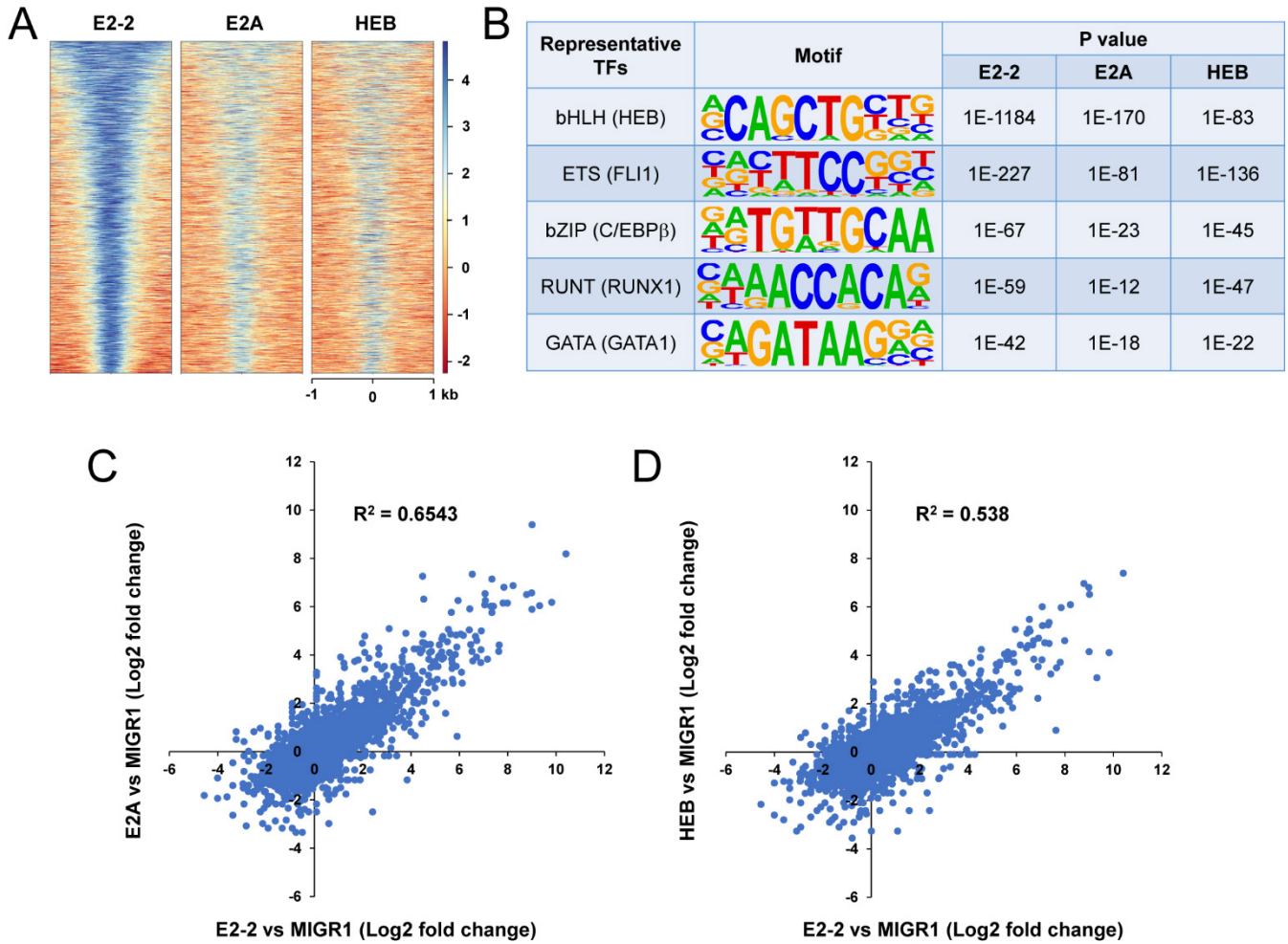


Fig. S5. Overlapping functions of E2-2, E2A and HEB in binding to the genome and regulating gene expression. (A) Heat map of enrichment scores for E2-2, E2A and HEB on genomic regions from -1 to 1 kb surrounding the E2-2 peaks, ordered by E2-2 binding strength. The top 3000 E2-2 binding sites are shown. (B) Top 5 overrepresented transcription factor binding sites (TFBSs) in the binding regions of E2-2, E2A and HEB. Note that the top 5 TFBSs are shared by the three E proteins, although their ranks based on the P values are slightly different. (C and D) Correlation analyses of the genes regulated by E2-2, E2A and HEB, based on RNA-seq data for Kasumi-1 cells overexpressing E2-2, E2A or HEB versus the negative control (MIGR1).

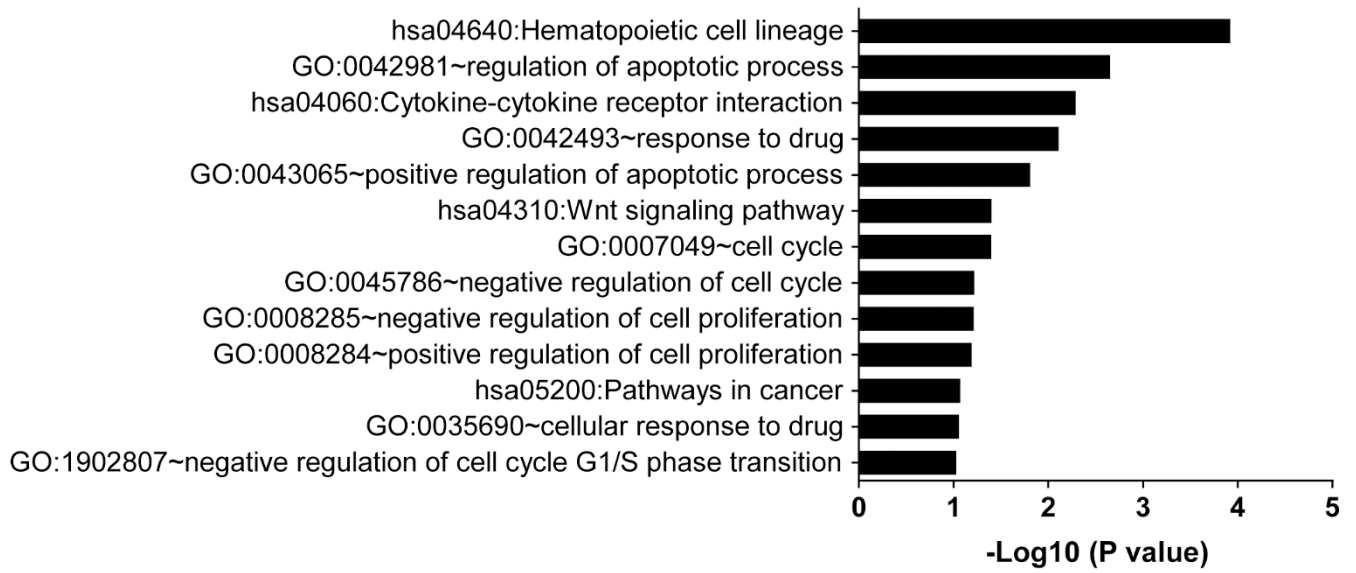


Fig. S6. Gene Ontology (GO) analysis of genes differentially expressed upon E2-2 overexpression. Note that the gene sets of hematopoietic cell lineage and regulation of apoptotic processes are most significantly enriched.

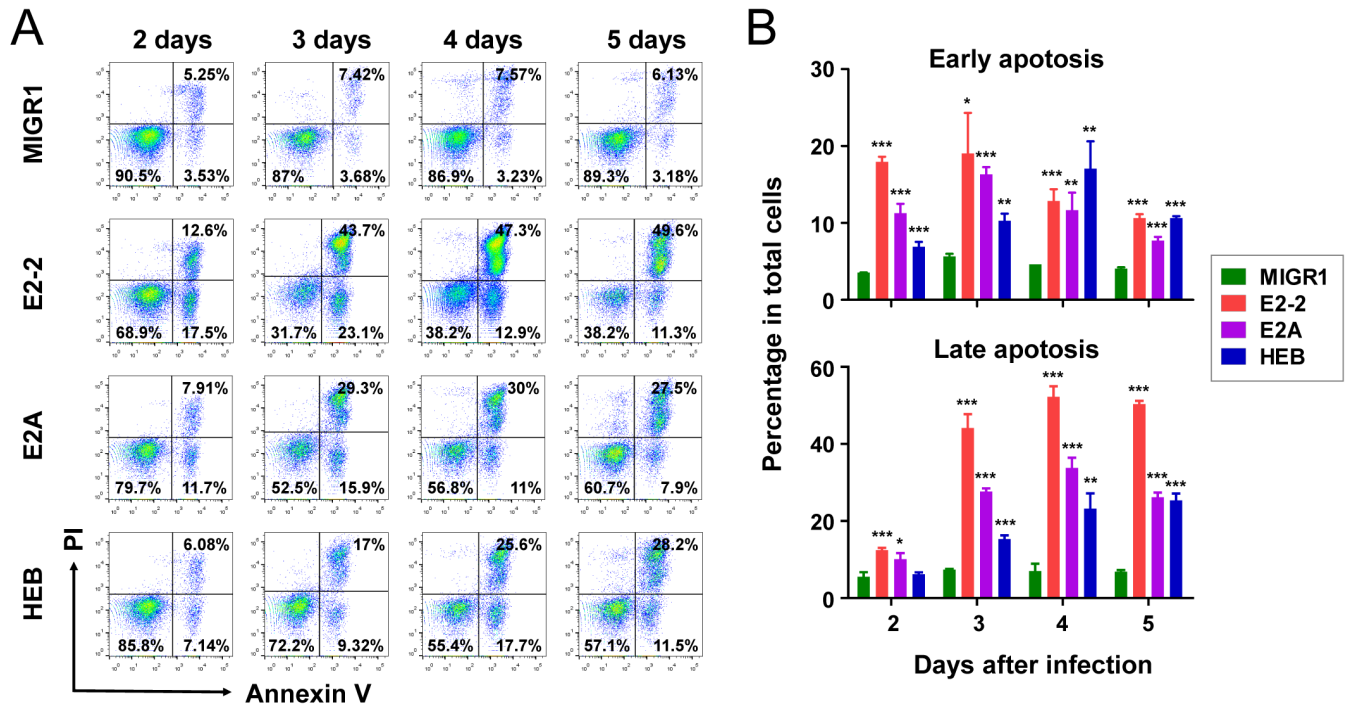


Fig. S7. Analyses of apoptosis of Kasumi-1 cells induced by overexpression of E proteins. (A) Representative flow cytometry analysis of apoptotic cells at different time phases after virus infection. (B) Quantification of the percentages of early apoptotic (annexin-V⁺/PI⁻) and late apoptotic (annexin-V⁺/PI⁺) cells. Note that E2-2 shows a most dramatic effect in induction of apoptosis. Data are presented as mean \pm SD of triplicate experiments. *** $P < 0.001$; ** $P < 0.01$; * $P < 0.05$.

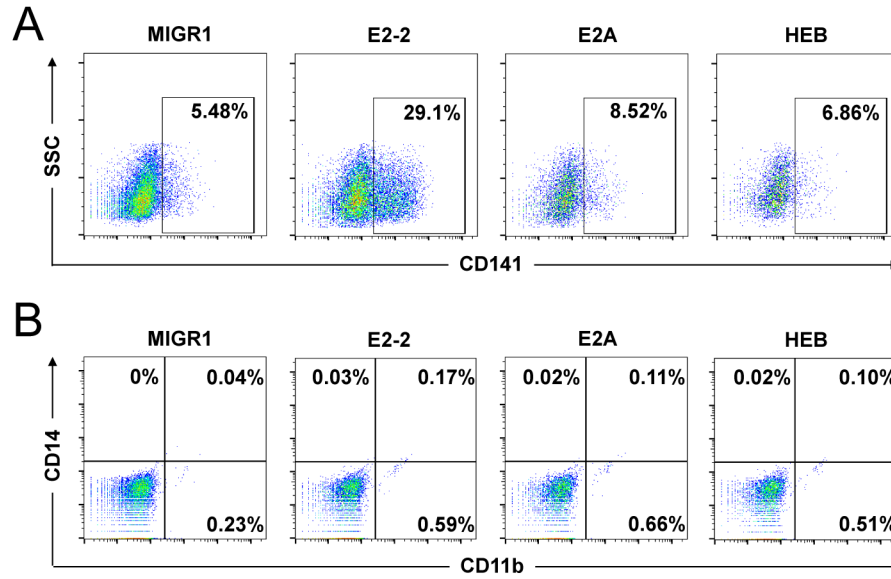


Fig. S8. Overexpression of E2-2 in Kasumi-1 cells induces dendritic, but not myeloid, differentiation. (A) Cells were cultured in basic medium for 2 days and the dendritic marker CD141 was measured by flow cytometry. (B) The granulocytic marker CD11b and the monocytic marker CD14 were not induced by the three E proteins in Kasumi-1 cells.

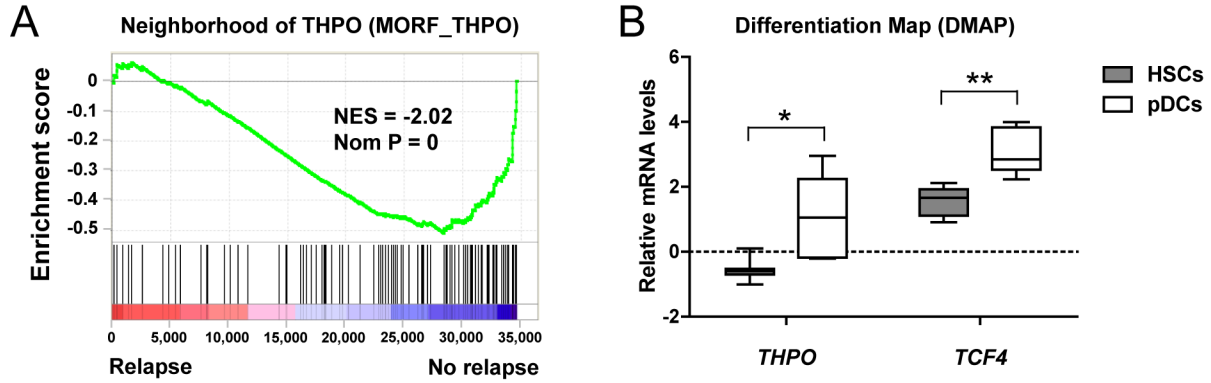


Figure S9. Gene expression profiling and correlation analyses of *THPO* and *E2-2* in t(8;21) AML patient samples and normal hematopoietic cells. (A) GSEA of RNA-seq data of t(8;21) AML patient samples indicating a strong correlation of the Neighborhood of THPO gene set (MORF_THPO) with the genes that are relatively specific for the non-relapse patients. (B) Relative expression levels of *THPO* and *TCF4/E2-2* mRNAs in purified human HSCs and plasmacytoid dendritic cells (pDCs). Note that *THPO* and *TCF4/E2-2* are cooperatively upregulated during the differentiation of HSCs to pDCs, and that the *THPO* expression level is extremely low in the HSCs. Data were derived from the Differentiation Map (DMAP) Portal of the Broad Institute. ** $P < 0.01$; * $P < 0.05$.

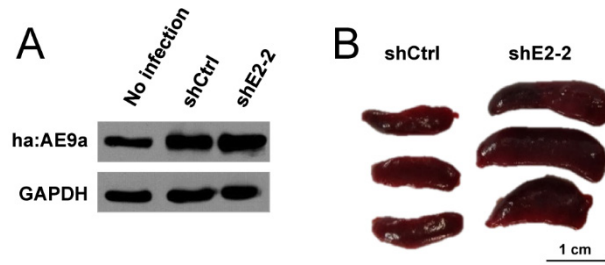


Fig. S10. Knockdown of E2-2 in the AML1-ETO9a-driven leukemia mouse model enhances leukemogenesis. (A) Western blot showing that knockdown of E2-2 does not affect the protein level of AML1-ETO9a in leukemic cells. (B) Representative images of the larger spleens in the mice harboring E2-2 knockdown leukemic cells relative to those with control cells.

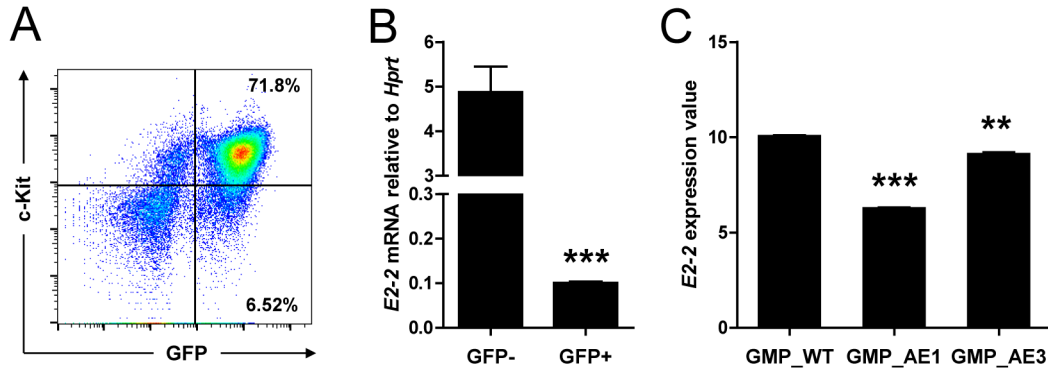


Fig. S11. Suppression of E2-2 in the leukemic cells of two mouse models of t(8;21) AML. (A) Flow cytometry analysis of the spleen cells of a leukemic mouse transplanted with AML1-ETO9a-expressing fetal liver HSPCs. (B) RT-qPCR analysis of the purified leukemic (GFP⁺) and non-leukemic (GFP⁻) cells shown in (A). Note that the *E2-2* mRNA expression is significantly decreased in the leukemic cells. Data are presented as mean \pm SD of triplicate reactions. (C) Decreased expression of *E2-2* in the leukemic cells of a mouse model that is generated by expression of AML1-ETO in the HSPCs of a *Tet2* deficient mouse. Data were obtained from Rasmussen et al., 2015, in which microarray analysis was performed with purified GMPs of two leukemic mice (AE1 and AE3) and a control (WT) mouse. Data are presented as mean \pm SD of triplicate experiments of each mouse. *** $P < 0.001$; ** $P < 0.01$.

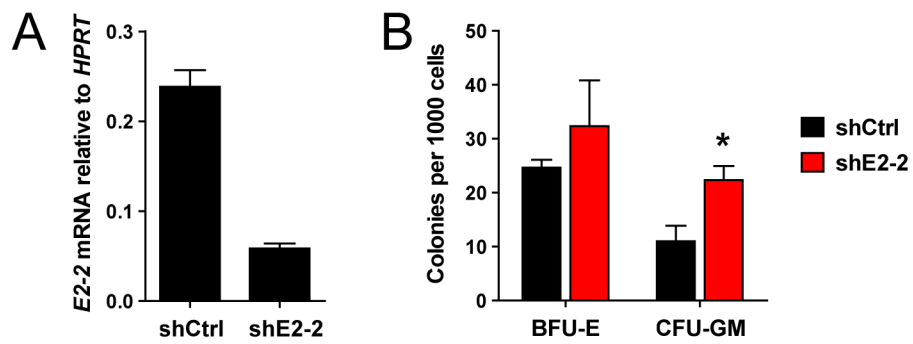


Fig. S12. Role of E2-2 in human normal HSPCs. (A) shRNA-mediated knockdown of E2-2 in human CD34⁺ HSPCs. Data are presented as mean \pm SD of triplicate reactions. (B) Slightly increased capacity of the E2-2–knockdown HSPCs to form myeloid colonies. Data are presented as mean \pm SD of triplicate experiments. * $P < 0.05$.