

## Reporting Summary

Nature Research wishes to improve the reproducibility of the work that we publish. This form provides structure for consistency and transparency in reporting. For further information on Nature Research policies, see [Authors & Referees](#) and the [Editorial Policy Checklist](#).

### Statistics

For all statistical analyses, confirm that the following items are present in the figure legend, table legend, main text, or Methods section.

n/a Confirmed

- |                                     |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | The exact sample size ( $n$ ) for each experimental group/condition, given as a discrete number and unit of measurement  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | A statement on whether measurements were taken from distinct samples or whether the same sample was measured repeatedly  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | The statistical test(s) used AND whether they are one- or two-sided<br><i>Only common tests should be described solely by name; describe more complex techniques in the Methods section.</i>   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | A description of all covariates tested   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | A description of any assumptions or corrections, such as tests of normality and adjustment for multiple comparisons  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | A full description of the statistical parameters including central tendency (e.g. means) or other basic estimates (e.g. regression coefficient) AND variation (e.g. standard deviation) or associated estimates of uncertainty (e.g. confidence intervals) |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | For null hypothesis testing, the test statistic (e.g. $F$ , $t$ , $r$ ) with confidence intervals, effect sizes, degrees of freedom and $P$ value noted<br><i>Give <math>P</math> values as exact values whenever suitable.</i>                            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | For Bayesian analysis, information on the choice of priors and Markov chain Monte Carlo settings   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | For hierarchical and complex designs, identification of the appropriate level for tests and full reporting of outcomes   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Estimates of effect sizes (e.g. Cohen's $d$ , Pearson's $r$ ), indicating how they were calculated   |

*Our web collection on [statistics for biologists](#) contains articles on many of the points above.*

### Software and code

Policy information about [availability of computer code](#)

Data collection

Confocal microscopy (NIS-Elements, Nikon, Japan); Brillouin imaging (Microscopy™); Near-Infrared fluorescence imaging (Odyssey CLx System, Li-Cor Biosciences, NE, USA)

Data analysis

Confocal microscopy (NIS-Elements, Nikon, Japan; ImageJ v.1.7); AFM analysis (Image Metrology A/S, Denmark); qPCR analysis (Eco Software v3.1; Illumina, CA, USA); Statistical analysis (GraphPad Prism 6.01 and Excel Office 365)

For manuscripts utilizing custom algorithms or software that are central to the research but not yet described in published literature, software must be made available to editors/reviewers. We strongly encourage code deposition in a community repository (e.g. GitHub). See the Nature Research [guidelines for submitting code & software](#) for further information.

### Data

Policy information about [availability of data](#)

All manuscripts must include a [data availability statement](#). This statement should provide the following information, where applicable:

- Accession codes, unique identifiers, or web links for publicly available datasets
- A list of figures that have associated raw data
- A description of any restrictions on data availability

The data that support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

### Field-specific reporting

Please select the one below that is the best fit for your research. If you are not sure, read the appropriate sections before making your selection.

- Life sciences       Behavioural & social sciences       Ecological, evolutionary & environmental sciences

## Life sciences study design

All studies must disclose on these points even when the disclosure is negative.

Sample size	Sample sizes determined as per state-of-the-art in the field
Data exclusions	No data was excluded from the analyses
Replication	All attempts at replication were successful
Randomization	Samples allocated randomly
Blinding	Study directors were not blinded to the group allocations, however, the technical staff performing daily animal care and data collection were blinded to group allocations until each study was completed.

## Reporting for specific materials, systems and methods

We require information from authors about some types of materials, experimental systems and methods used in many studies. Here, indicate whether each material, system or method listed is relevant to your study. If you are not sure if a list item applies to your research, read the appropriate section before selecting a response.

### Materials & experimental systems

n/a	Involvement in the study
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Antibodies
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Eukaryotic cell lines
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Palaeontology
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Animals and other organisms
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Human research participants
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Clinical data

### Methods

n/a	Involvement in the study
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> ChIP-seq
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Flow cytometry
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> MRI-based neuroimaging

## Antibodies

Antibodies used	ABCG2 (ab24114, Abcam); Beta-catenin (ab11350, Abcam); CD31 (555445, BD Biosciences); Collagen-I (ab34710, Abcam); Collagen-I (ab19811, Abcam); Collagen-IV (Ab6586, Abcam); Collagen-V (ab7046, Abcam); Collagen-VII (ab93350, Abcam); Cytokeratin 3 (sc-80000, Santa Cruz Biotechnology); Cytokeratin 3+12 (ab68260, Abcam); Cytokeratin 15 (ab52816, Abcam); ΔNp63 (sc-8343, Santa Cruz Biotechnology); Integrin-α3β1 (ab24696, Abcam); Integrin-α9 (AF3827, R&D Systems); Laminin-1 (MA1-21194, Thermo Scientific); Laminin-γ3 (STJ93897, St John's Laboratory); VEGFR3 (STJ27572, St John's Laboratory)
Validation	All antibodies validated, as per manufacturers' description

## Animals and other organisms

Policy information about [studies involving animals](#); [ARRIVE guidelines](#) recommended for reporting animal research

Laboratory animals	New Zealand White female rabbits two to three month old and weighing 2.5 to 3.0 kg
Wild animals	n/a
Field-collected samples	n/a
Ethics oversight	Ethical approval from the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee of the Harry S. Truman Memorial Veterans' Hospital and the University of Missouri, Columbia, USA

Note that full information on the approval of the study protocol must also be provided in the manuscript.