

## Supplemental Information

### Bone Marrow Mesenchymal Stem Cells Support

### Acute Myeloid Leukemia Bioenergetics and Enhance

### Antioxidant Defense and Escape from Chemotherapy

Dorian Forte, María García-Fernández, Abel Sánchez-Aguilera, Vaia Stavropoulou, Claire Fielding, Daniel Martín-Pérez, Juan Antonio López, Ana S.H. Costa, Laura Tronci, Efterpi Nikitopoulou, Michael Barber, Paolo Gallipoli, Ludovica Marando, Carlos López Fernández de Castillejo, Alexandar Tzankov, Sabine Dietmann, Michele Cavo, Lucia Catani, Antonio Curti, Jesús Vázquez, Christian Frezza, Brian J. Huntly, Juerg Schwaller, and Simón Méndez-Ferrer

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## SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

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Dorian Forte<sup>1-3,\*</sup>, María García-Fernández<sup>1-3,\*</sup>, Abel Sánchez-Aguilera<sup>4,\*</sup>, Vaia Stavropoulou<sup>5</sup>, Claire Fielding<sup>1-3</sup>, Daniel Martín-Pérez<sup>4</sup>, Juan Antonio López<sup>4,6</sup>, Ana S.H. Costa<sup>7</sup>, Laura Tronci<sup>7</sup>, Efterpi Nikitopoulou<sup>7</sup>, Michael Barber<sup>1</sup>, Paolo Gallipoli<sup>1-2</sup>, Ludovica Marando<sup>1-2</sup>, Carlos López Fernández de Castillejo<sup>4</sup>, Alexandar Tzankov<sup>8</sup>, Sabine Dietmann<sup>1</sup>, Michele Cavo<sup>9</sup>, Lucia Catani<sup>9</sup>, Antonio Curti<sup>10</sup>, Jesús Vázquez<sup>4,6</sup>, Christian Frezza<sup>7</sup>, Brian J. Huntly<sup>1-2</sup>, Juerg Schwaller<sup>5,#</sup> and Simón Méndez-Ferrer<sup>1-4,#</sup>

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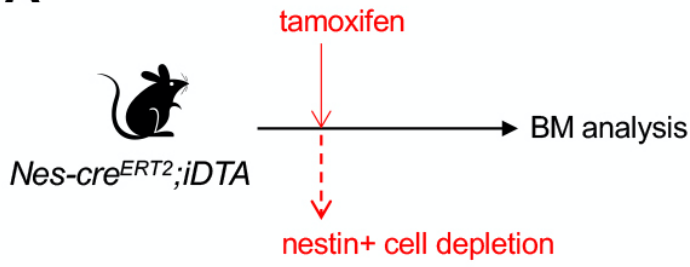
\*These authors contributed equally

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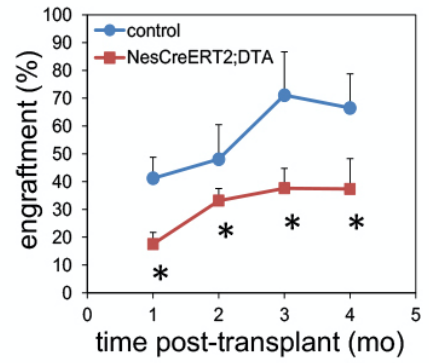
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# Figure S1

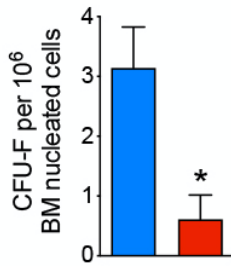
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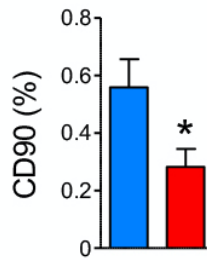
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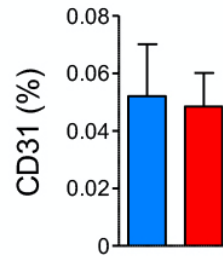
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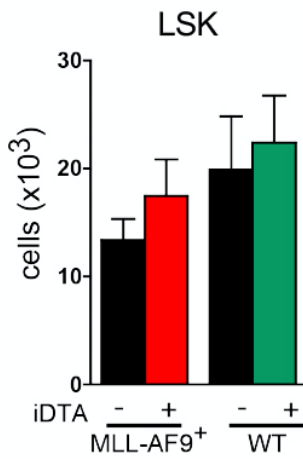


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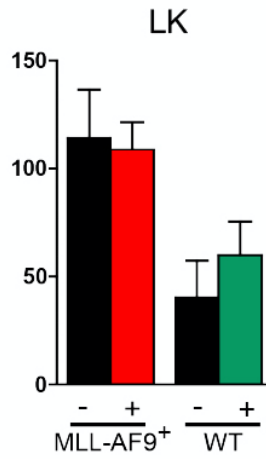


■ control *iDTA* ■ *Nes-cre<sup>ERT2</sup>;iDTA*

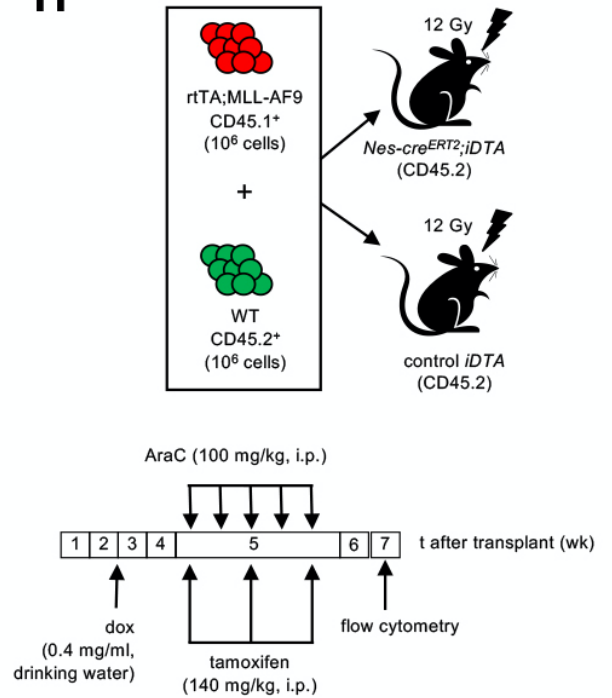
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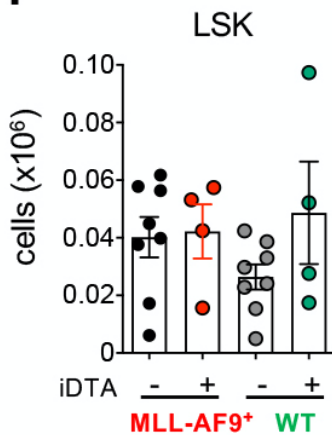
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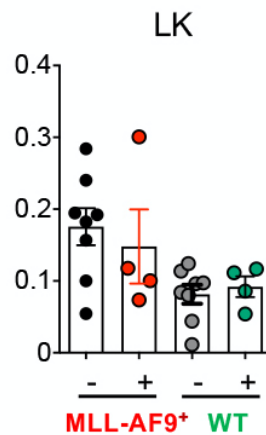
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## I



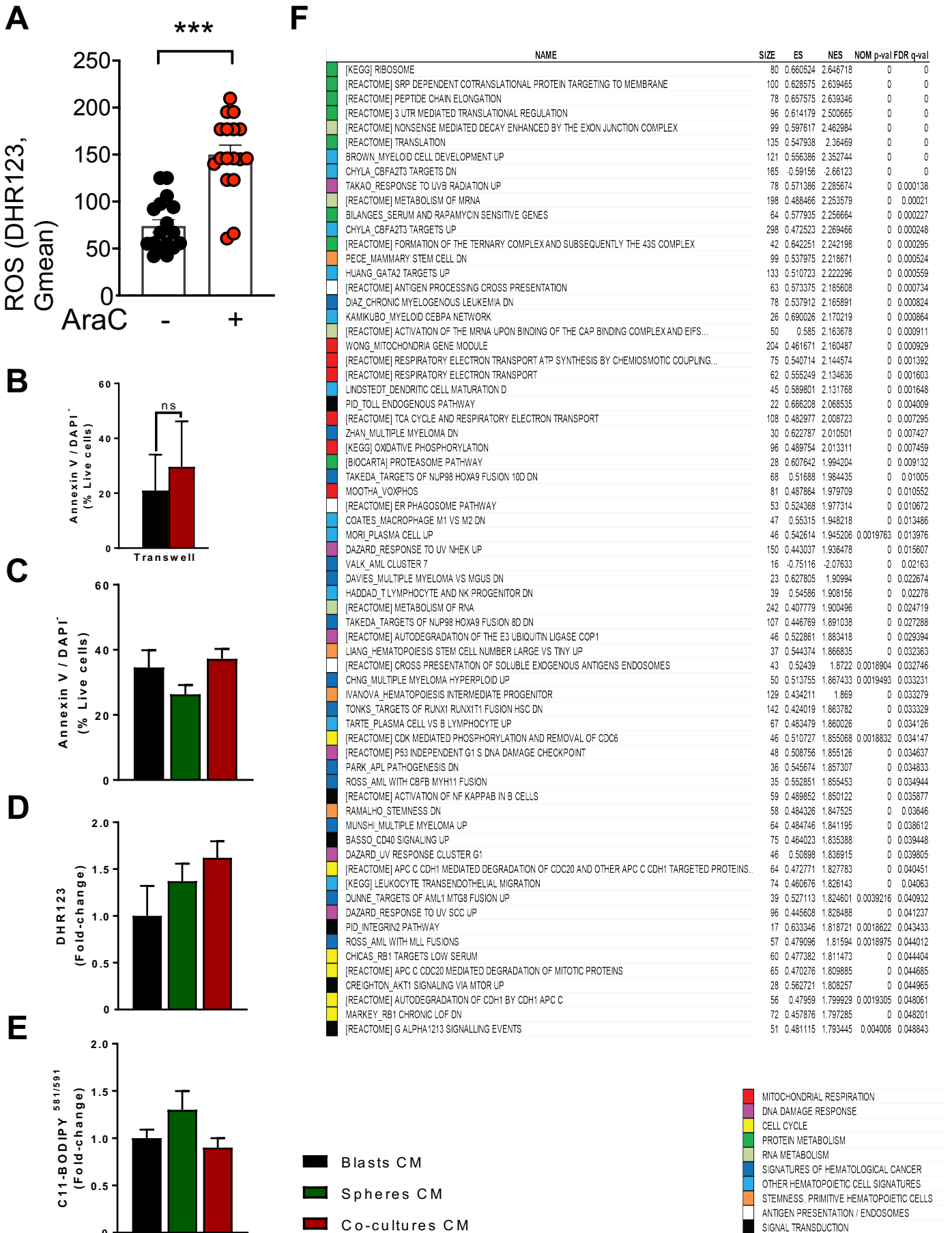
## J



**Figure S1. Related to Figure 1 and Figure 2. Nestin<sup>+</sup> Cells Support AML Chemoresistance *in vivo*.**

(A) Scheme of experimental depletion of nestin<sup>+</sup> cells *in vivo*. Diphtheria toxin (iDTA) is induced in nestin<sup>+</sup> cells (*Nes-cre<sup>ERT2</sup>*) with tamoxifen. (B-D) Tamoxifen-treated *Nes-cre<sup>ERT2</sup>;iDTA* mice exhibit 2-fold-reduced BMSCs measured by fibroblastic-colony-forming units in culture (CFU-F, B) or flow cytometry (C, CD90<sup>+</sup>) but unchanged frequency of CD31<sup>+</sup> BM endothelial cells (D). (E) Long-term competitive repopulation assay using BM cells from tamoxifen-treated *Nes-cre<sup>ERT2</sup>;iDTA* mice or control mice. Half-reduced nestin<sup>+</sup> cells cause a similar 2-fold reduction in functionally defined HSCs (n=4-5). Data are mean±SEM; \*p<0.05; unpaired 2-tailed *t* test. (F-G) BM lin<sup>-</sup> c-kit<sup>+</sup> sca-1<sup>+</sup> (LSK) cells (F) or lin<sup>-</sup> c-kit<sup>hi</sup> sca-1<sup>-</sup> (LK) cells (G) in the same cohort of mice shown in Figure 2B-E. Data represent the cellularity of 4 limbs, sternum and spine (n=18 mice/group, pooled from 3 independent experiments). (H) Schematic of nestin<sup>+</sup> cell depletion experiment in combination with standard chemotherapy treatment. Lethally-irradiated *Nes-cre<sup>ERT2</sup>;iDTA* or control *iDTA* mice were transplanted with iMLL-AF9;CD45.1<sup>+</sup> BM and WT CD45.2<sup>+</sup> BM (10<sup>6</sup> cells each). Doxycycline induction began 2 weeks post-transplant. Mice were simultaneously treated with tamoxifen (140 mg/kg, i.p., 3 doses on alternate days) and cytarabine (5 daily doses of 100 mg/kg), starting 2 weeks after MLL-AF9 induction. (I-J) Number of BM LSK cells (I) or LK cells (J) in the same cohort of mice shown in Figure 2F-I). Data are mean ± SEM. \*p < 0.05; \*\*p < 0.01; unpaired 2-tailed *t* test.

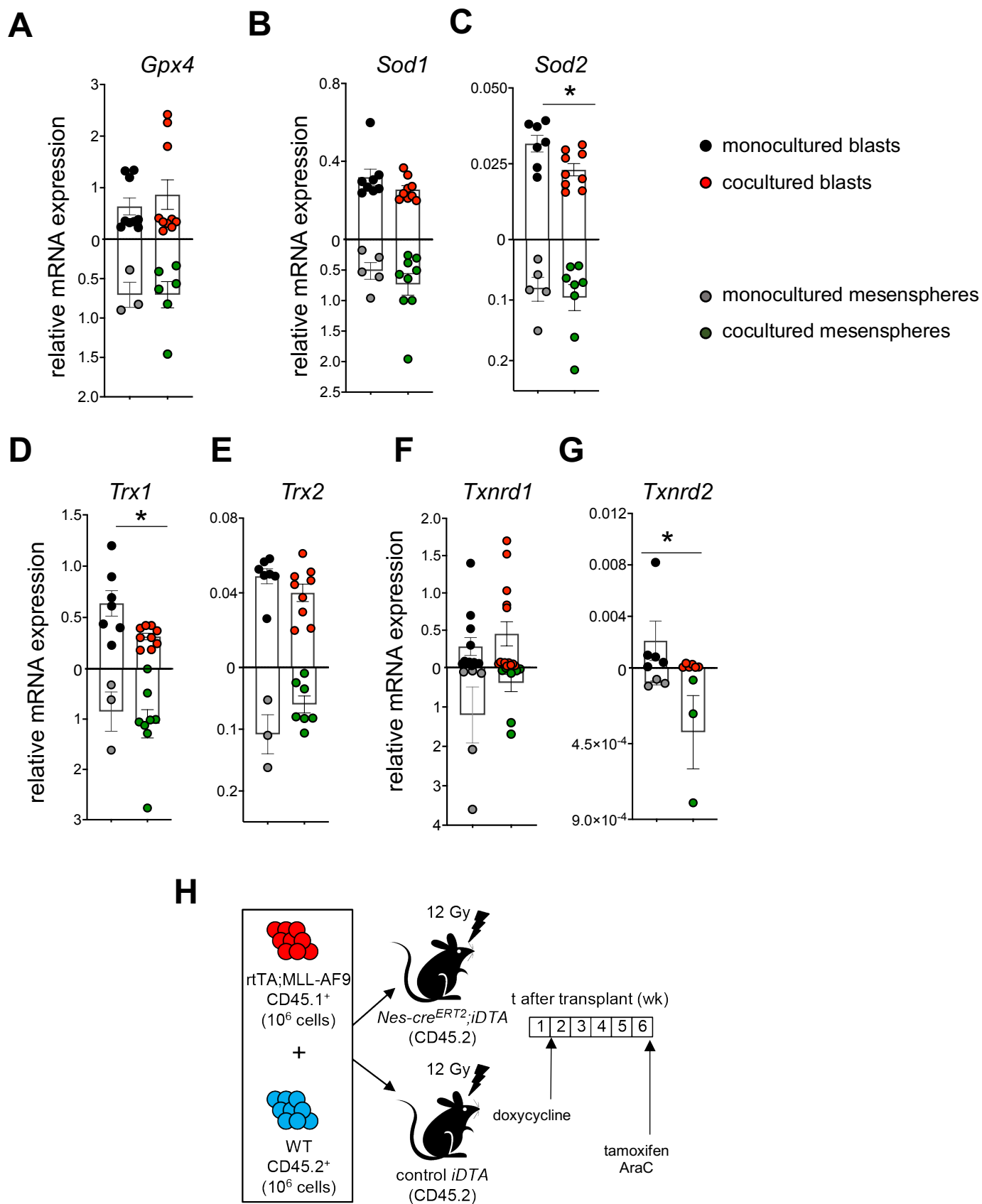
## Figure S2



**Figure S2. Related to Figure 3. Metabolic Profiling of AML Blasts and BMSCs Cultured Separately or Together Under AraC Treatment and Gene Sets Regulated by Nestin<sup>+</sup> Cells in LK<sup>lo</sup> AML Cells.**

(A) Reactive oxygen species (ROS) measured by DH123 staining in AML blasts cultured alone in the absence/presence of AraC for 24h. Each dot is a biological replicate. \*\*\* $p < 0.01$ ; unpaired two-tailed  $t$  test. (B-E) Transwell coculture or use of conditioned medium from mesenspheres cannot protect AML blasts for AraC-induced cell death, excessive ROS or lipid peroxidation. (B) Frequency of alive AML blasts in monoculture (black column) or transwell cocultures (red) with BM mesenspheres under AraC treatment. (C-E) Conditioned medium (CM) from mesenspheres or cocultures cannot protect AML blasts from AraC-induced cell death (C), excessive ROS levels (D) or lipid peroxidation (E). Leukemic blasts in monoculture (black column) ( $200 \times 10^3$  cells/ml) and mouse nestin<sup>+</sup> mesenspheres ( $\sim 250$ /ml) were cultured alone or in co-culture for 24 h. CM was collected to seed new leukemic blasts (with CM from previous cultures) for 24h. Detection of apoptosis with Annexin V/DAPI (C), intracellular ROS production with DHR123 expressed as fold-change to control with CM from leukemic blasts (D), lipid peroxidation using C(11)-BODIPY(581/591) (E) were measured by flow cytometry in the leukemic blasts. One-way ANOVA followed by post-hoc multiple comparison. Data are mean  $\pm$  SEM. (F) Gene Sets Regulated by Nestin<sup>+</sup> Cells in LK<sup>lo</sup> AML Cells. Output of a gene-set enrichment analysis (GSEA) of gene expression profiling data from LK<sup>lo</sup> cells sorted from control or *Nes-cre*<sup>ERT2</sup>;*iDTA* mice transplanted with WT and iMLL-AF9 BM cells. The table represents those gene sets most significantly enriched (FDR < 0.05) in one of the genotypes. Positive enrichment scores indicate enrichment in control cells; negative scores mean enrichment in cells from *Nes-cre*<sup>ERT2</sup>;*iDTA* mice. Gene sets were color-coded according to the cellular process to which they are most related. A number of gene sets of little relevance (mainly signatures of various non-hematological diseases including solid tumors) were omitted for clarity. ES, enrichment score; NES, normalized enrichment score; NOM p-val, nominal (unadjusted) p-value; FDR, Benjamini-Hochberg false discovery rate.

Figure S3

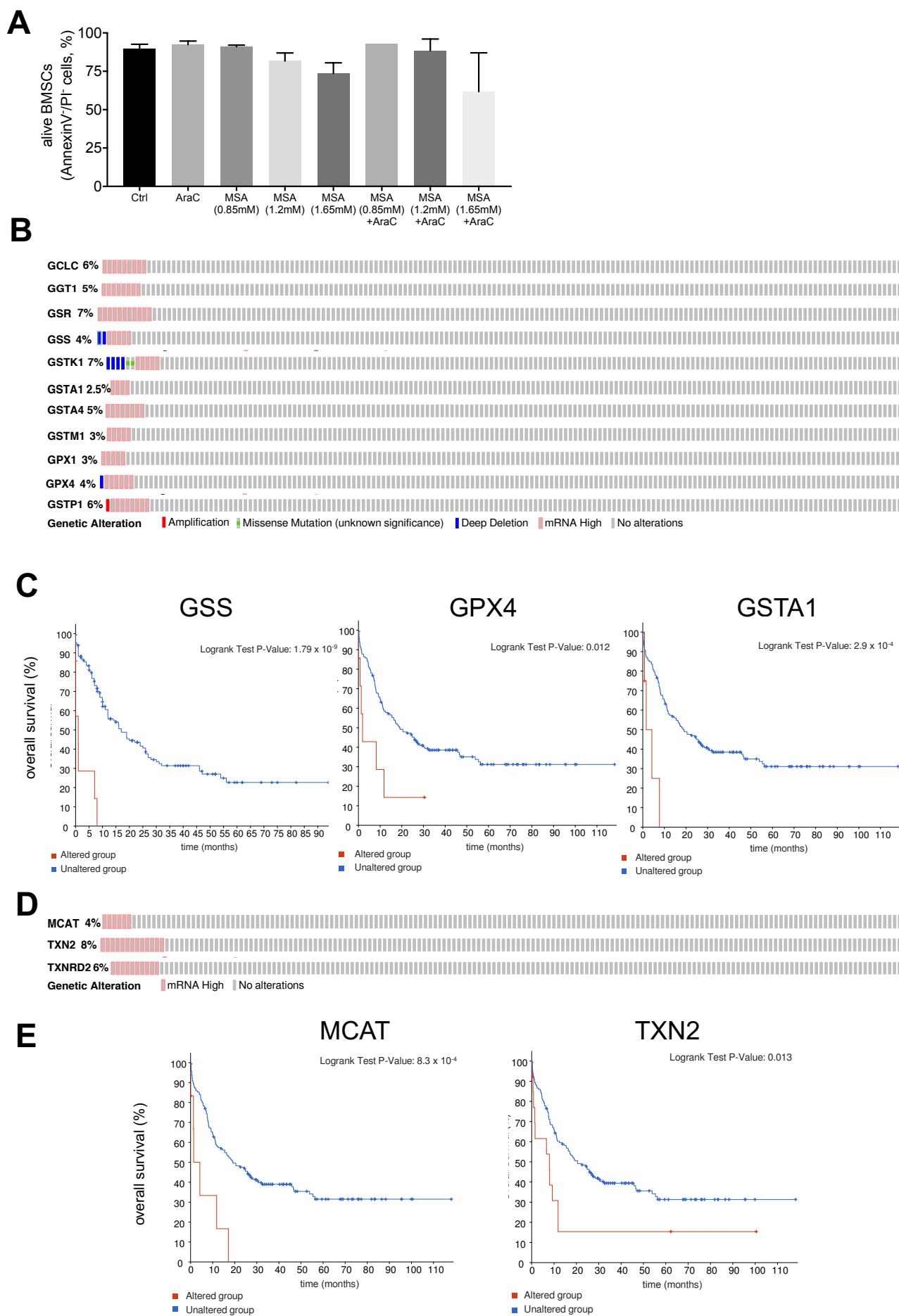




**Figure S3. Related to Figure 5. mRNA Expression of Genes Related to Antioxidant Defense in AML Blasts and BMSCs.**

mRNA expression of genes encoding (A) glutathione peroxidase 4 (*Gpx4*), superoxide dismutases 1 (*Sod1*, B) and 2 (*Sod2*, C), thioredoxins 1 (*Trx1*, D) and 2 (*Trx2*, E), and thioredoxin reductases 1 (*Txnrd1*, F) and 2 (*Txnrd1*, G) in AML blasts and BMSCs cultured alone or together for 24h in presence of AraC. (H) Scheme showing the *in vivo* experimental paradigm to study the impact of nestin<sup>+</sup> cell depletion on GSH-dependent antioxidant AML protection from AraC.

# Figure S4



**Figure S4. Related to Figure 6. Increased mRNA Expression of Antioxidant-Related Genes Correlates with Poor Overall Survival in Human AML.**

(A) Alive BMSCs after treatment with AraC and/or various concentrations of mercaptosuccinic acid (MSA) for 24h. (B, D) List of genes involved in antioxidant pathways and frequency of AML patients with abnormalities in these genes (Cancer Genome Atlas Research, 2013). (C, E) Correlation with overall survival from public database TCGA. List of interrogated genes included (B) GSH-related molecules: GCLC, catalytic subunit of glutamate-cysteine ligase; GGT1, Gamma-glutamyltransferase 1; GSR, glutathione reductase; GSS, glutathione oxidase; GSTK1, Glutathione S-transferase kappa 1; GSTA1, Glutathione S-transferase alpha 1; GSTA4, Glutathione S-transferase alpha 4; GSTM1, Glutathione S-transferase Mu 1; GPX1, glutathione peroxidase 1; GPX4, glutathione peroxidase 4; GSTP1, Glutathione S-transferase P; (E) Other antioxidant-related molecules: MCAT, Malonyl-CoA-Acyl carrier protein transacylase; TXN2, thioredoxin 2; TXNRD2, thioredoxin reductase 2. Genetic alterations include amplification (red box), missense mutation (green box), deep deletion (blue box) or mRNA upregulation (empty red box). Increased mRNA expression of (C) GSS, GPX4, GSTA1, (E) MCAT or TXN2 correlates with poor overall survival in human AML.

**Table S1. Related to Figure 4. Analysis of the RNAseq data from Nestin<sup>+</sup> BMSCs obtained from leukemic iMLL-AF9 and normal mice.** BM stromal (CD45<sup>-</sup> Ter119<sup>-</sup>CD31<sup>-</sup>) Nes-GFP<sup>+</sup> cells were sorted from control normal (N) *Nes-GFP;rtTA* mice and leukemic (L) *Nes-GFP;rtTA;iMLL-AF9* mice. N2, N3 correspond to normal mice; L2, L3 correspond to leukemic mice. Each sample comprised cells obtained from one or two mice. The first two sheets correspond to genes significantly up- or down-regulated in nestin<sup>+</sup> BMSCs from leukemic mice. The other sheets list pathways analysis taking into consideration differentially expressed genes. Significant pathways for each subontology are shown in separated sheets (BP, biological process; MF, molecular function; CC, cellular component).

**Table S2. Related to Figure 4. Analysis of the RNAseq data from leukemic BM  $lin^- ckit^{lo}$  cells obtained from mice with/without nestin<sup>+</sup> cell depletion.** Lethally-irradiated CD45.2 control mice or *Nes-cre<sup>ERT2</sup>;iDTA* mice were transplanted with  $10^6$  iAML (*rtTA;MLL-AF9*) CD45.2<sup>+</sup> BM nucleated cells and  $10^6$  CD45.1<sup>+</sup> WT BM nucleated cells. Doxycycline administration started 2 weeks after transplant; tamoxifen was administered 4 weeks post-transplant and mice were sacrificed and analyzed 4 weeks later. BM MLL-AF9<sup>+</sup>  $lin^- ckit^{low}$  (LK<sup>lo</sup>) cells were sorted from leukemic mice with nestin<sup>+</sup> cell depletion (E, experimental) or without nestin<sup>+</sup> cell depletion (C, control). The list of genes, their fragments per kilobase of exon model per million reads mapped (FKPM) values for individual control or experimental mice, the average values, fold change, p value and adjusted p values are indicated.

**Table S3. Related to Figure 4. Analysis of the proteomic data from leukemic blasts and spheres in monoculture or coculture upon AraC treatment.** AML blasts were cultured alone or cocultured with mesenspheres for 24h in the presence of AraC. The mesenspheres were mechanically isolated through filtration and the leukemic blast were sorted as CD45<sup>+</sup> DAPI<sup>-</sup> cells. The samples were processed for Quantitative Protein Analysis as described in the Methods. The sheet contains a list of proteins significantly up- or down-regulated in blasts or spheres and categories significantly regulated according to pathway enrichment analysis.