

Figure S1. Tamoxifen-inducible Cre for cell fate tracking. (A–D) Immunostaining of wild-type mouse eye on section (A, C) or whole-mounts (B, D). K12 and K19 (magenta) were used as markers of the corneal and conjunctival epithelium, respectively. Hoechst nuclear staining in green. Scale bars: 500 μ m. (E) Schematic representation of the tamoxifen-inducible CreER system. (F, G) Scheme for long-term lineage tracing. Schedule of tamoxifen injection (magenta arrowheads) and tissue collection (white arrowheads) is shown. (H–J) $K14^{CreER}$, $Dlx1^{CreER}$ and $Slc1a3^{CreER}$ without tamoxifen injection. The white line outlines the whole-mount epithelial sheets. Magenta, tdTomato. Green, K12 (corneal marker). Scale bars: 500 μ m. (K) Diagram shows the measurement of the length between the peripheral edge of the tdTomato⁺ clone and the corneal/conjunctival boundary.

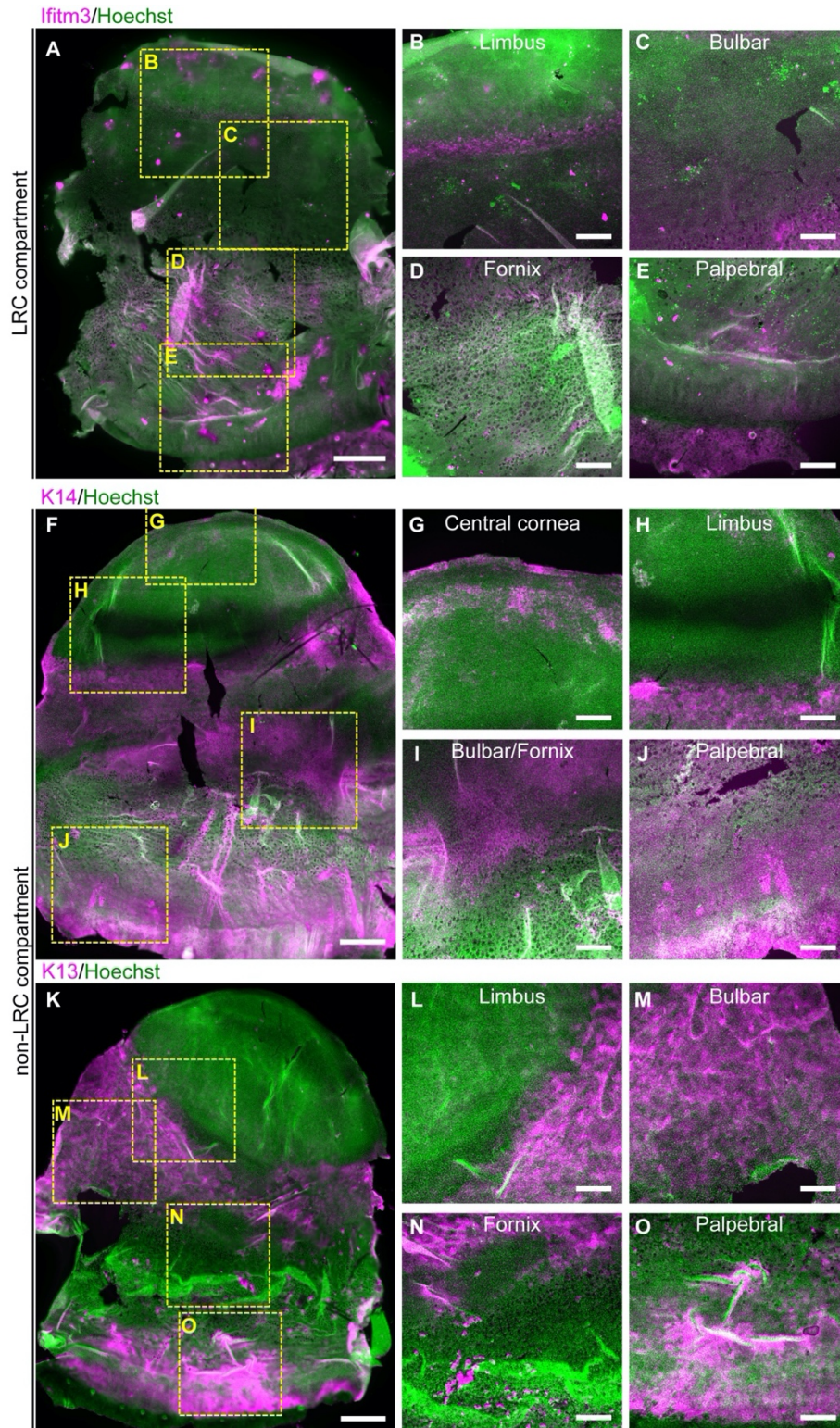
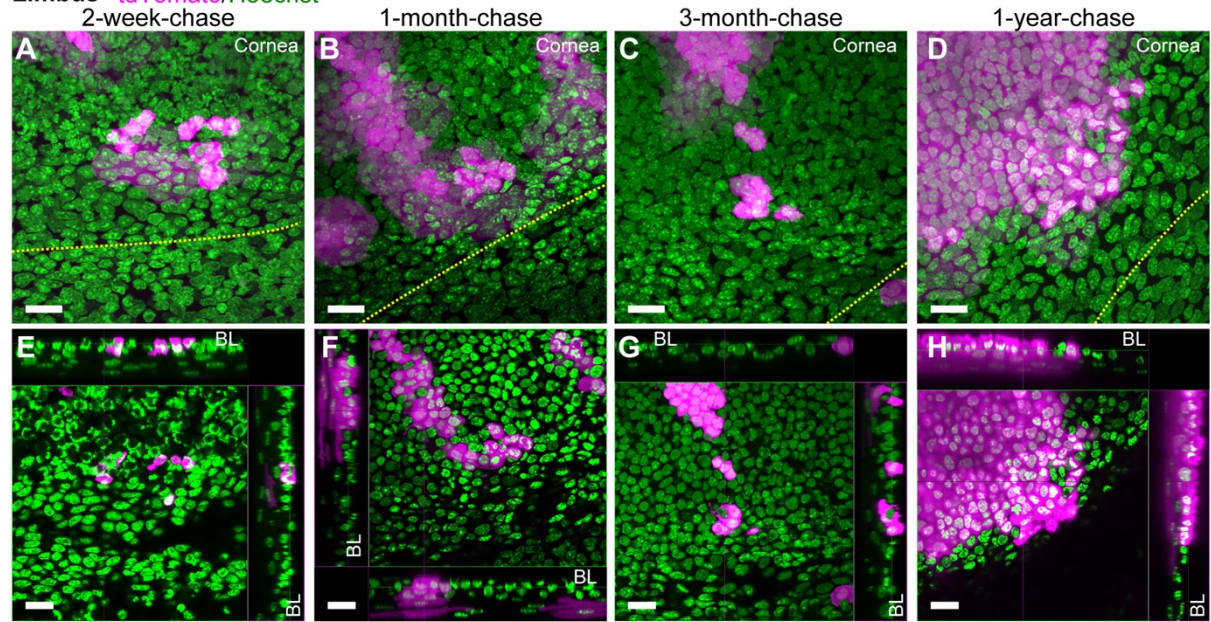


Figure S2. Regional markers to define distinct compartments in the ocular surface epithelium. (A-O) A whole-mount staining of epithelial sheets. Areas surrounded by the yellow dashed square are shown with higher magnification (B-E, G-J, L-O). Magenta, Ifitm3 (A-E), K14 (F-J) and K13 (K-O). Green, Hoechst. Scale bars: 500 μ m (A, F, K), 200 μ m (B-E, G-J, L-O).

Slc1a3^{CreER}

Limbus tdTomato/Hoechst



1-year-chase

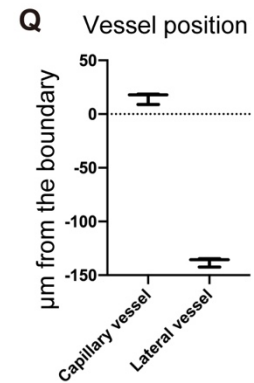
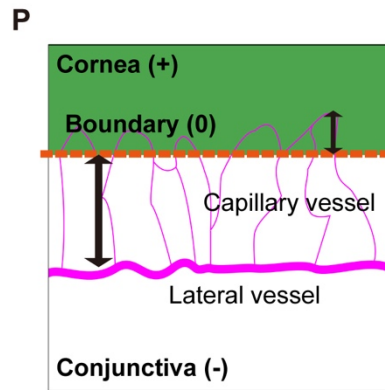
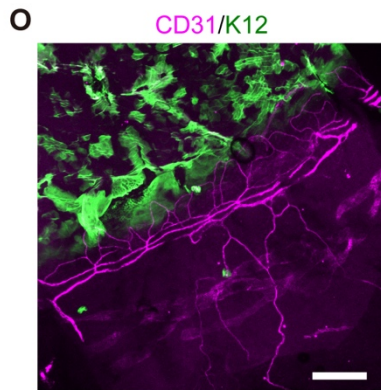
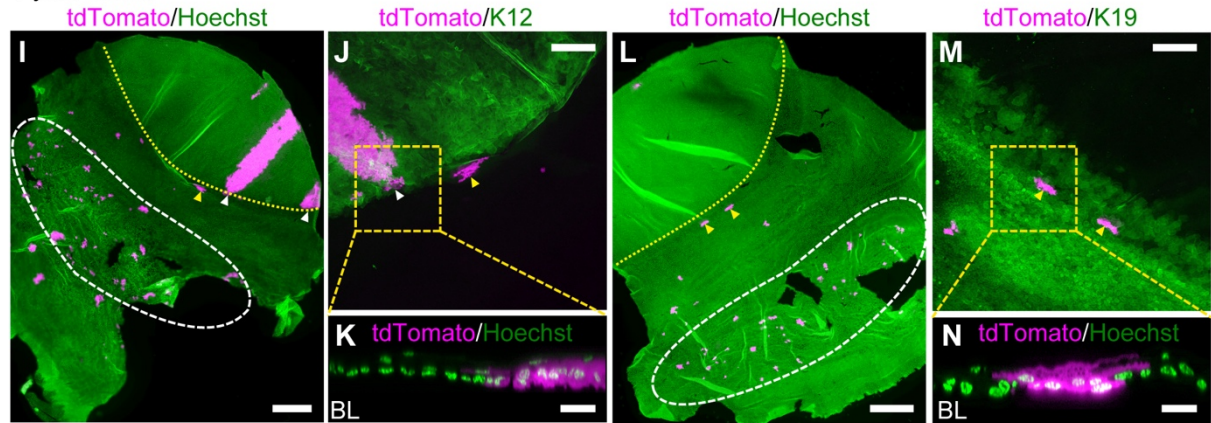


Figure S3. Lineage tracing of *Slc1a3*^{CreER} in the cornea. (A-H) Confocal imaging of representative clones at 2-week-, 1-month-, 3-month-, and 1-year-chases. The areas surrounded by the yellow dashed line in Fig. 2E-H are shown. Images are shown as a maximum-intensity projection (A-D) or confocal sections of the xy, yz, and xz planes of basal clones (E-H; BL, basal layer). The yellow dashed line represents the corneal/conjunctival boundary (A-D). Magenta, tdTomato. Green, Hoechst. Scale bars: 20 μm . (I-N) Mouse eyes were analyzed by whole-mount immunostaining at 1-year-chase. The yellow dashed line indicates the corneal/conjunctival boundary. The white dashed line represents the tdTomato⁺ cell-enriched area in the fornix conjunctiva. Central corneal areas are shown with higher magnification (J, M) and as a side view of Z-stack confocal images (K, N; BL, basal layer). White arrowheads indicate tdTomato⁺ radial stripes extended from the limbus. Yellow arrowheads indicate tdTomato⁺ clones expanded laterally within the limbal region. Magenta, tdTomato. Green, K12 (J, corneal marker). Green, K19 (M, conjunctival marker). Green, Hoechst (I, K, L, N). Scale bars: 500 μm (I, L), 200 μm (J, M), 20 μm (K, N). (O) Immunostaining of wild-type mouse eye on whole-mounts. Magenta, CD31 (blood vessels). Green, K12 (corneal marker). Scale bars: 200 μm . (P) Diagram shows the measurement of the length between the peripheral edge of lateral vessel/capillary vessels and the corneal/conjunctival boundary. (Q) The positions of blood vessels are measured from the boundary. $N = 3$ mice. Data are shown as means \pm SD.

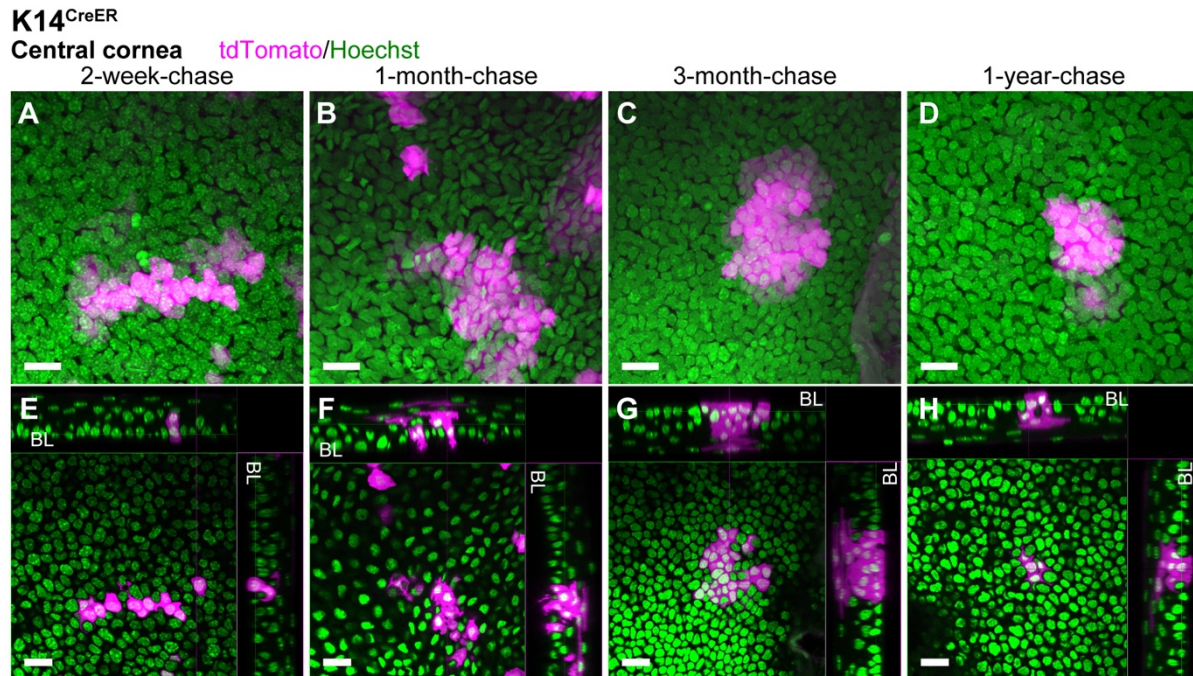


Figure S4. Lineage tracing of K14^{CreER} in the cornea. (A-H) Confocal imaging of representative clones at 2-week-, 1-month-, 3-month-, and 1-year-chases. The areas surrounded by the yellow dashed line in Fig. 3E-H are shown. Images are shown as a maximum-intensity projection (A-D) or confocal sections of the xy, yz, and xz planes of basal clones (E-H; BL, basal layer). Magenta, tdTomato. Green, Hoechst. Scale bars: 20 μ m.

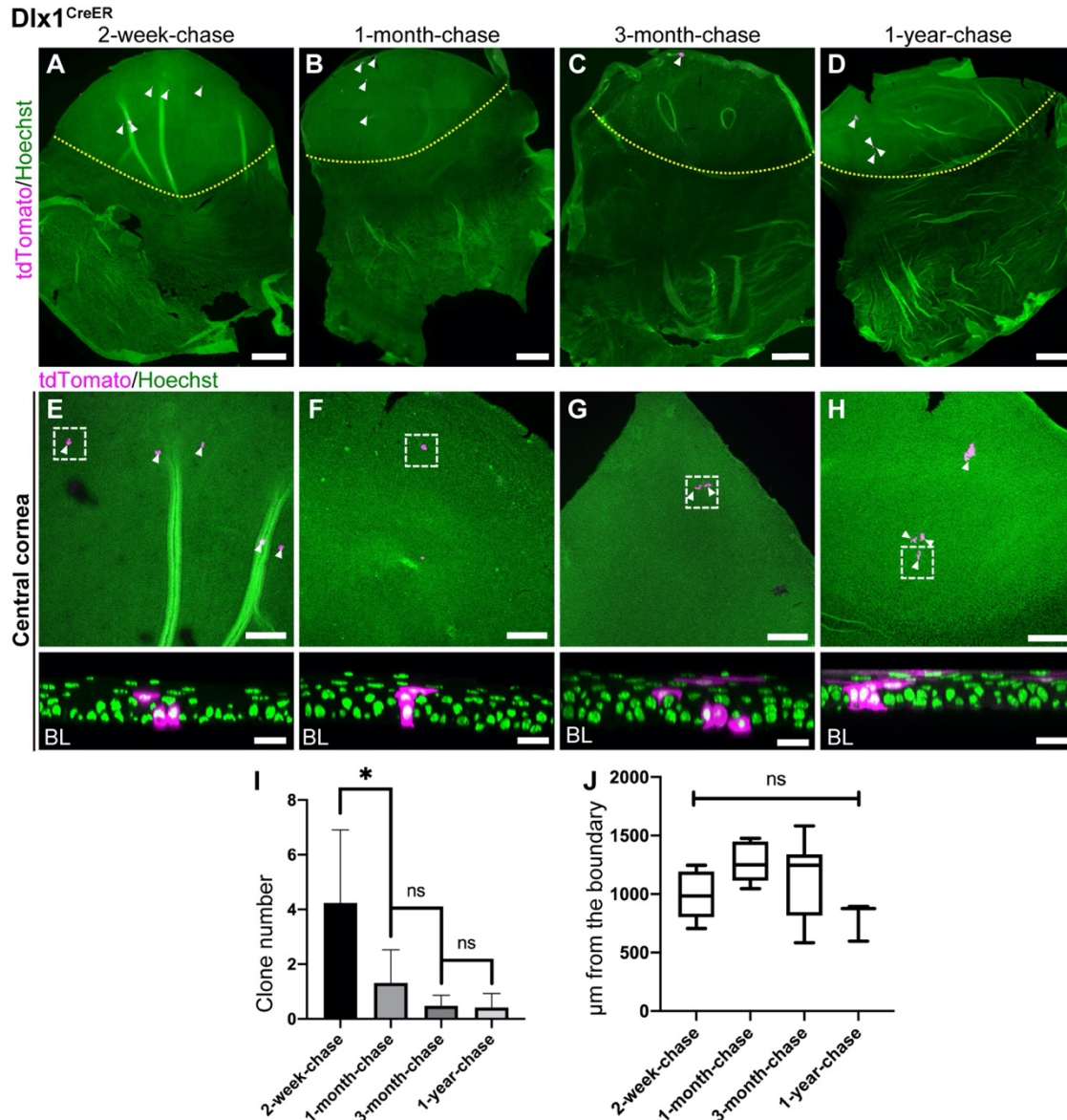


Figure S5. Lineage tracing of *Dlx1*^{CreER} in the cornea. (A-H) Mouse eyes were analyzed by whole-mount immunostaining at 2-week-, 1-month-, 3-month-, and 1-year-chases. Central corneal areas are shown as a maximum-intensity projection (E-H, top). The areas surrounded by white dashed lines are shown as a side view of Z-stack confocal images (E-H, bottom; BL, basal layer). The yellow dashed line indicates the corneal/conjunctival boundary (A-D). Arrowheads indicate tdTomato⁺ cells (A-H). Magenta, tdTomato. Green, Hoechst. Scale bars: 500 μm (A-D), 200 μm (E-H, top), 20 μm (E-H, bottom). (I) The number of tdTomato⁺ clones per half whole-mount sample is quantified at indicated time points. One-way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni test. *; $P < 0.05$. ns: not significant. (J) Box plot showing the distance of tdTomato⁺ clones from the corneal/conjunctival boundary at indicated time points of chase. $N = 3$ mice at 2-week-chase, $N = 3$ mice at 4-week-chase, $N = 7$ mice at 3-month-chase, and $N = 6$ mice at 1-year-chase. All tdTomato⁺ clones in whole-mount samples from a half eye were measured and used for quantification. Data are shown as means \pm standard deviation (SD). One-way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni test. ns: not significant.

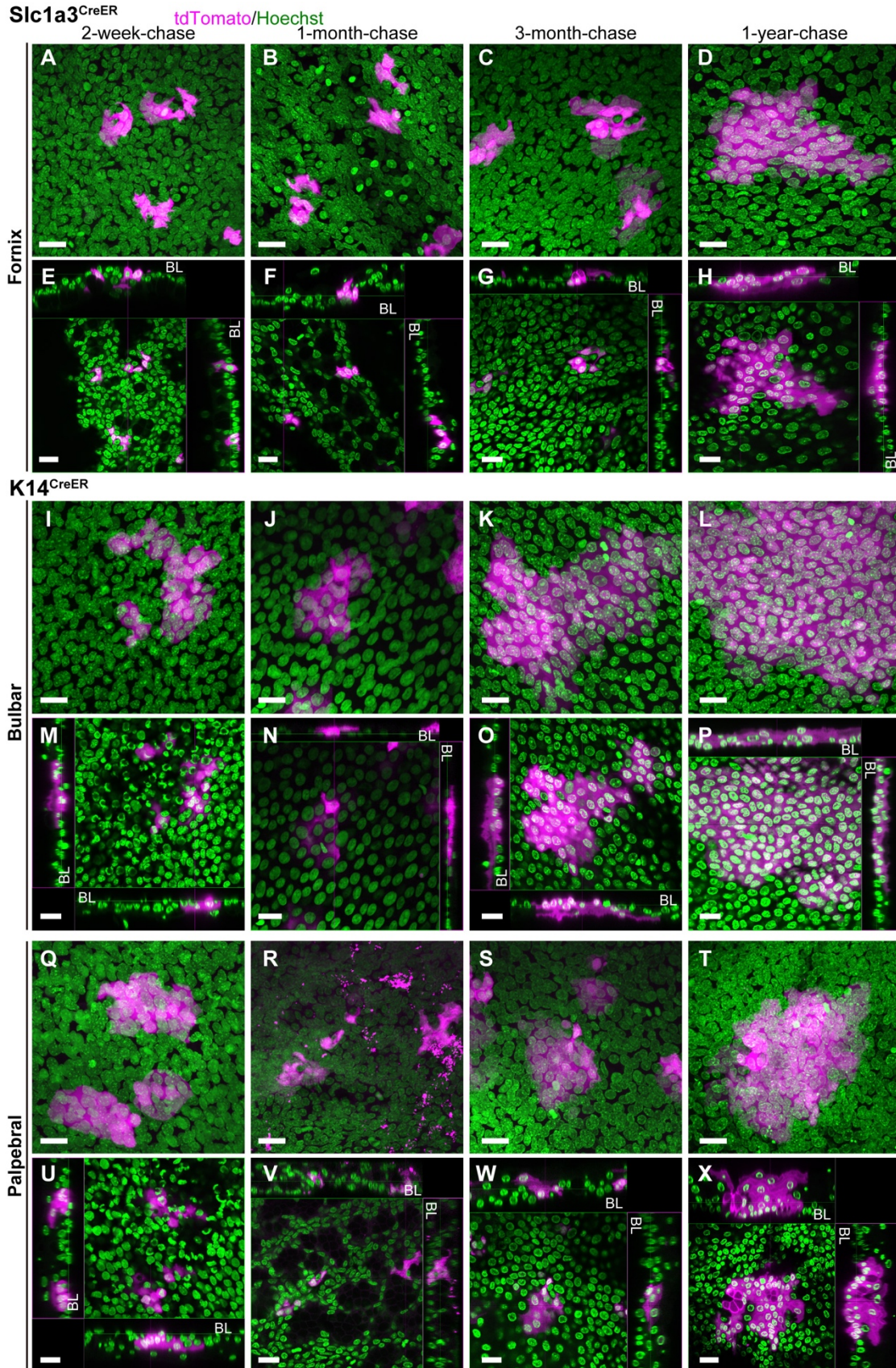


Figure S6. Lineage tracing of Slc1a3^{CreER} and K14^{CreER} in the conjunctiva. (A-H) Confocal imaging of representative clones of Slc1a3^{CreER} in the fornix conjunctiva at 2-week-, 1-month-, 3-month-, and 1-year-chases. The areas surrounded by the yellow dashed line in Fig. 4A-D are shown. Images are shown as a maximum-intensity projection (A-D) or confocal sections of the xy, yz, and xz planes of basal clones (E-H; BL, basal layer). Magenta, tdTomato. Green, Hoechst. Scale bars: 20 μ m. (I-X) Confocal imaging of representative clones of K14^{CreER} in the bulbar and palpebral conjunctiva at 2-week-, 1-month-, 3-month-, and 1-year-chases. The areas surrounded by the yellow dashed line in main Fig. 4I-P are shown. Images are shown as a maximum-intensity projection (I-L, Q-T) or confocal sections of xy, yz, and xz planes of basal clones (M-P, U-X; BL, basal layer). Magenta, tdTomato. Green, Hoechst. Scale bars: 20 μ m.

Limbus deletion

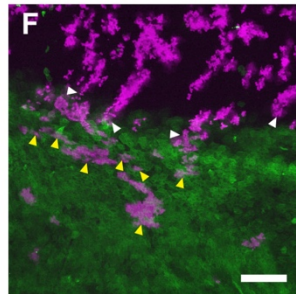
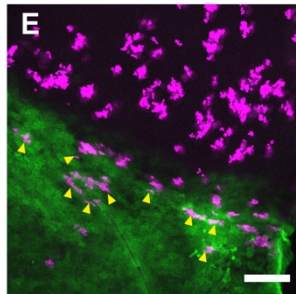
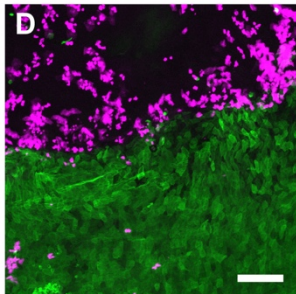
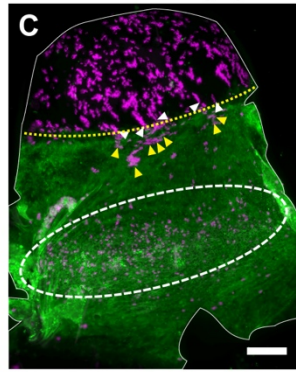
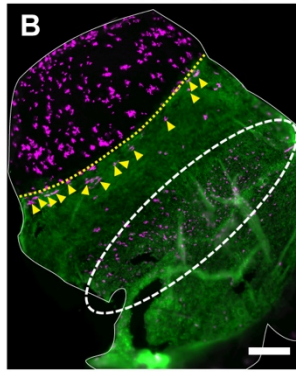
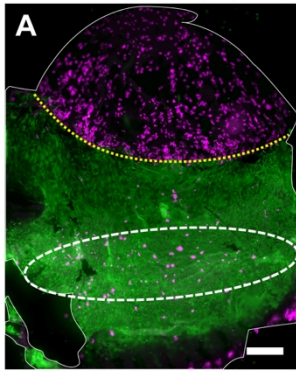
Slc1a3^{CreER}

tdTomato/K19

1-day-post-injury

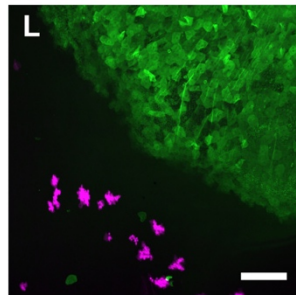
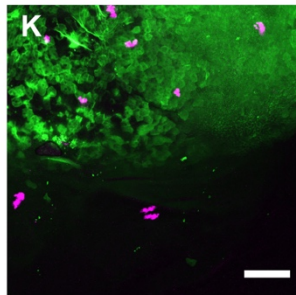
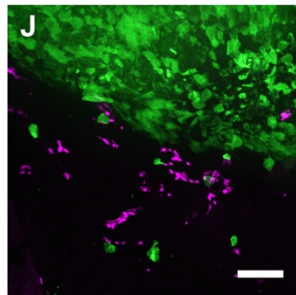
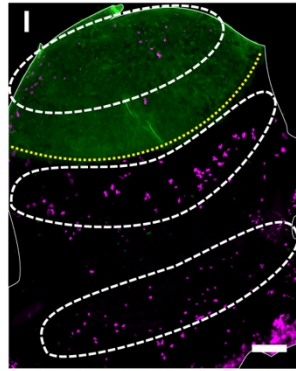
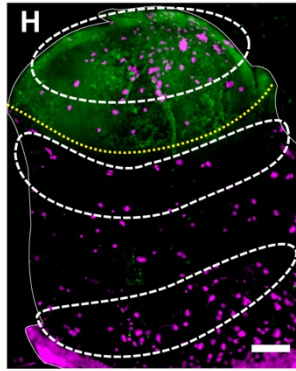
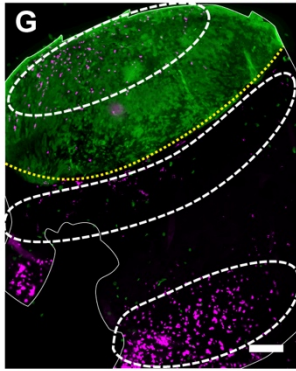
2-week-post-injury

4-week-post-injury



K14^{CreER}

tdTomato/K12

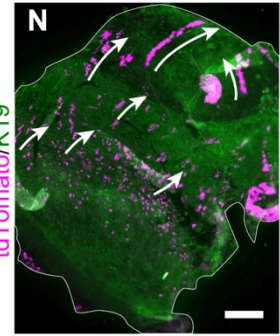
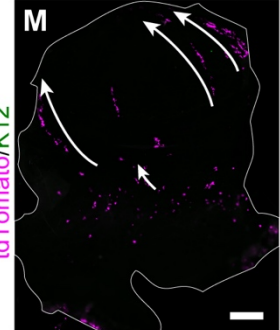


Chemical burn

Slc1a3^{CreER}

tdTomato/K12

2-week-post-injury



K14^{CreER}

tdTomato/K12

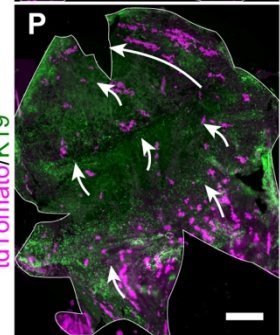
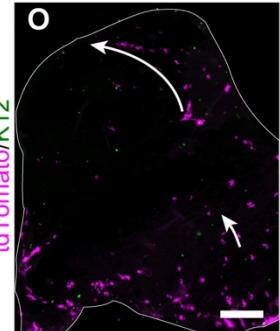


Figure S7. Time course of injury experiments. (A-L) Whole-mount immunostaining after limbal epithelial deletion. Data are shown 1-day-, 2-weeks-, and 4-weeks post-injury. The white line outlines the whole-mount epithelial sheets. The yellow dashed line indicates the corneal/conjunctival boundary. The white dashed line represents the tdTomato⁺ cell-enriched area. White arrowheads indicate tdTomato⁺ radial stripes extending from the limbus. Yellow arrowheads indicate tdTomato⁺ clones expanding laterally within the limbal region. Magenta, tdTomato. Green, K19 (A-F, conjunctival marker) or K12 (G-L, corneal marker). Scale bars: 500 μm (A-C, G-I), 200 μm (D-F, J-L). (M-P) Whole-mount immunostaining after chemical burn. Data are shown 2-weeks post-injury. The white line outlines the whole-mount epithelial sheets. White arrows represent the movement of conjunctival tdTomato⁺ clones. Magenta, tdTomato. Green, K12 (M, O, corneal marker) or K19 (N, P, conjunctival marker). Scale bars: 500 μm .