Supplementary information

A coordinated progression of progenitor cell states initiates urinary tract development

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Supplementary Fig.1: Generation of single cell-RNA seq and Cluster-seq libraries from the trunk of mouse embryos by FACS. a Gating strategy used to sort *Pax2*-GFP+ single cells and cell clusters from the trunk of mouse embryos. Shown is the example for one of the libraries *Pax2*-GFP SC-2 and Cl-2. **b** Summary of the libraries used in the study. **c-d** Quality control and cell cycle bias removal. Shown is the example for CTL (*Pax2*-GFP-SC-3) and *Gata3* KO (*Pax2*-GFP;*Gata3* KO SC-3) libraries. **c** Comparison of number of genes, Unique Molecular Identifier (UMI) counts and percentage of mitosis. Source data are provided as a Source Data file. **d** tSNE analysis of merged libraries shows the correction of cell cycle bias. Upper panel (non-corrected); lower panel (corrected). Graphs on the left color code cells in function of the cell cycle stage (G1, G2M or S). Graphs on the right show expression of the cell cycle gene *Ube2c*.

Supplementary Fig.2

Top GO biological processes

b

Top GO Signaling pathways

Supplementary Fig.2: Expression heatmap relevant NdPr of most markers and gene ontology of nephric duct cell populations. a Cell clusters are and identified color-coded. Clusterdefining genes were identified using a $\log FC > 0.25$ and adjusted P value < 0.05. Relevant cluster markers are denoted in a box. **b** Gene ontology analysis of nephric duct cell clusters.

Supplementary Fig.3: Characterization of nephric duct progenitors cell populations. a Schematic representation of the elongating nephric duct at E9.5, depicting 4 regions (Rostral, Intermediate I, II and tip) according to actin dynamics, epithelialization and tubulogenesis profiles. b Immunostaining of Tfap2a and the epithelial marker E-cadherin in sagittal sections and F-actin (phalloidin) in transverse sections of Pax2-GFP nephric ducts at E9.5. Nephric duct lumen is denoted by a yellow asterisk, whereas the apical domain is marked by a yellow arrow. c Characterization of the NdPr3 population at E10.0. White and yellow dotted lines denote the nephric duct (ND) and mesonephric tubule (MT) regions respectively. White line denotes mesonephric connecting segment (MCS). Representative images of n=3 independent experiments. Scale bar 25 µm and the same for all the pictures on the same row.

MCS

Supplementary Fig.4: Progenitor lineages in E9.5 mesonephric tubules. a Uniform Manifold Approximation and Projection (UMAP) analysis of the E9.5 mesonephric tubule lineage (*Wt1*+, *Gata3*-) identified 3 cell clusters (MtPr1, MtPr2 and MtPr3). b Expression of selected MtPr cluster markers in UMAP. c Expression heatmap of the top 25 markers per cluster (based on highest logFC). d, e Characterization of MtPr populations in *Pax2*-GFP and *Pax2*-GFP;*Gata3* KO embryos by immunofluorescence marker analysis in tissue sections at E9.5 (d) and E10.5 (e). Yellow dashed lines denote MT. ND: Nephric duct. MCS: mesonephric connecting segment. Representative images of n=3 embryos. Scale bar 25 μ m and the same for all the pictures on the same row.

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duct and NdPr libraries at E9.5.

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Supplementary Fig.6: Single cell RNA-seq of renal progenitors at different time points. Uniform Manifold Approximation and Projection (UMAP) analysis of *Pax2*-positive E8.75 (a) and E9.0 (b), as well as E11.5 urogenital system (c) single cell RNA-seq libraries. Relevant cell populations used in the study and including nephric duct (ND), intermediate mesoderm, mesonephric tubules and ureteric bud (UB) are denoted by dotted lines based on the expression of markers *Gata3*, *Col1a2*, *Wt1* and *Calb1*, respectively.

UMAP_1

Supplementary Fig.7: Characterization of NdPr at different time points during early renal development. a Uniform Manifold Approximation and Projection (UMAP) analysis for the expression of selected cluster markers in intermediate mesoderm (IM), mesonephric tubules (MT), nephric duct (NdPr) and ureteric bud (UB) single cell RNA-seq libraries at E8.75, E9.0, E9.5 and E11.5. The UMAP depicting IM, MT, ND and UB clusters is shown in Figure 4A. **b** Percentage of each NdPr relative to the total number of ND or UB cells at four different time points (n=4 sc-RNA-seq libraries); n=1 library per time point. **c-d** Analysis of NdPr cluster markers in E8.5 anterior intermediate mesoderm (AIM) single cell RNA-seq data extracted from the Marioni lab's website atlas dataset. **e** Immunostaining for the NdPr4 and NdPr2 markers Aldh1a3 and Tfap2b in caudal ND tissue sections at E10.5 showing the presence of NdPr4 cell at the budding site. Nascent UB is depicted by white dotted lines. The angle of the section fails to show the connection between ND and cloaca that has already occurred at this stage. Representative image of n=3 embryos. Scale bar 25 µm and the same for all the pictures on the same row.

Supplementary Fig.8: Expression dynamics of NdPr cluster markers across pseudotime. a Principal component analysis showing the position of NdPr cell populations at E8.75, E9.0, E9.5 and E11.5 presented in Figure 4B, color coded by a pseudotime scale. b Representative expression profile of the selected NdPr cluster markers in pseudotime. Cells are color coded by NdPr type and time point. c Heatmap of the expression of NdPr cluster markers across pseudotime. Cell clusters are numbered and color-coded. Cluster-defining genes were identified using a logFC > 0.25 and adjusted P_value < 0.05. Genes are shown in rows. Cells (grouped in bins) are ordered according to pseudotime.

Supplementary Fig.9: Characterization of the Gata3 mutant nephric duct. a Wholemount GFP fluorescence in control (Pax2-GFP) and Gata3 KO embryos (Pax2-GFP;Gata3 KO) at E10.5. The yellow dotted line in the wholemount picture denote the region where the section was taken in (b). **b** Immunostaining for the polarity markers E-cadherin and aPKC in transversal cryosections. The yellow dotted line denotes the nephric duct whereas yellow arrows denote cells detaching from the nephric duct. Scale bar 25 µm and the same for all the pictures on the same row. c Quantification of lumen length and the number of nuclei per duct section, respectively. n=6 to 8 sections. Graphs represent mean \pm SD and were compared by an unpaired t test. d Magnification view of the *Gata3* KO nephric duct (GFP signal) stained for E-cadherin and aPKC. Yellow arrows denote cells detaching from the nephric duct. Representative image of n=4 embryos. e Alignment of reads to Gata3 exon 4 in control and Gata3 KO single-cell RNA-seq libraries. f tSNE analysis for the expression of markers of *Pax2* positive cell populations in the mouse embryo trunk (merged control and Gata3 KO libraries). g Ratio of the number of cells expressing relevant markers in the Gata3 mutant versus the control nephric duct library. h tSNE analysis of *Tfap2b* expression in control and Gata3 KO nephric duct cells. i Principal component-based trajectory analysis of control and Gata3 KO cells. Upper graph shows the superimposed trajectory color-coded by pseudotime whereas the lower graph color code by genotype: control (green cells) and *Gata3* KO (black cells).

Supplementary Fig.10

Supplementary Fig.10: Targeting of Tfap2a and Tfap2b by CRISPR/Cas9 technology. a tSNE analysis for the expression of *Tfap2* family members in the nephric duct. **b** Target sequence of the sgRNAs used to target *Tfap2a* and *Tfap2b*. **c** Summary of the genotypes, phenotypes and number of Tfap2a/2b mutants recovered. ONF: open neural fold, ND: nephric duct. **d** Wholemount transmitted light imaging of allelic series of *Tfap2a/2b* compound mutants shows open cranial neural fold (yellow arrow) when *Tfap2a* is knocked out. Scale bar 500 μ m and the same for all the pictures.

E10.5

Genotype	Primer name	Primer sequence
Pax2-GFP	Pax2-GFP_geno_Forward1	5'-ACTGGTGTGAGAGGCGGGTTCTT-3'
	Pax2-GFP_geno_Forward2	5'-GCTGGCGAAAGGGGGATGTGCTG-3'
	Pax2-GFP_geno_Reverse	5'-AAACAGGCAGAGTGGCTGAGTAT-3'
Gata3-GFP	Gata3-GFP_geno_Forward1	5'-GTCAGGGCACTAAGGGTTGTT-3'
	Gata3-GFP_geno_Forward2	5'-GGCCTACCCGCTTCCATTGCT-3'
	Gata3-GFP_geno_Reverse	5'-TATCAGCGGTTCATCTACAGC-3'
Tfap2a	Tfap2a_Exon6_geno_Forward	5'-TTTTCAAACCCTCTTGGCCTTGT-3'
	Tfap2a_Exon6_geno_Reverse	5'-GTCAACACAGAAAGAGACAGACT-3'
Tfap2b	Tfap2b_Exon4_geno_Forward	5'-TTCCCAGATGACTTGTGCTG-3'
	Tfap2b_Exon4_geno_Reverse	5'-AAGCAACTGCGTCAAACCTT-3'

Supplementary Table 1. Primer sequences used for genotyping mice or embryos by PCR.