

SUPPLEMENT VIDEOS

V1: The movement of a human eosinophil (white cell) on the surface of V-ctrl transduced HUVEC monolayer. HUVECs were transduced with V-ctrl and exposed to freshly isolated human eosinophils. The movement of eosinophils on the surface of the transduced HUVECs ($\mu\text{m}/\text{min}$) after binding were recorded by video microscopy.

V2: The movement of a human eosinophil (white cell) on the surface of V-miR-1 transduced HUVEC monolayer. HUVECs were transduced with V-miR-1 and exposed to freshly isolated human eosinophils. The movement of eosinophils on the surface of the transduced HUVECs ($\mu\text{m}/\text{min}$) after binding were recorded by video microscopy.

1 **SUPPLEMENTAL METHODS:**

2 **Sample processing for the asthma cohort**

3 Sputum and blood eosinophils were counted by blinded researchers and using a hemocytometer
4 after staining, as described previously.¹ For miR-1 measurement, RNA was extracted from the
5 banked frozen serum samples using Trizol extraction method (Thermo Fisher Scientific, US)
6 followed by phenol/chloroform extraction method, as per the manufacture protocol. Two
7 additional chloroform purification steps were performed before precipitating the RNA. The
8 concentration and quality of these RNA samples were determined using Nanodrop
9 spectrophotometer (Thermo Scientific) and RNA ScreenTape System (Agilent), respectively.

10 **CRS biopsies**

11 The nasal pathology tissues used for this study were removed by sinus endoscopy from the sites
12 of inflammation in the CRS patients and included tissue from two or more of the maxillary, frontal,
13 sphenoid or ethmoid sinuses. After removal, the tissues were immediately transferred to a culture
14 medium (RPMI without phenol red) on ice and within 3 hours of removal, transferred to our lab
15 for further processing. For RNA extraction, tissues were immediately suspended in Trizol and
16 stored at -80 C until the RNA extraction started. Total RNA was extracted using miRNeasy
17 purification kit (Qiagen). Following the RNA extraction, concentration of RNA samples was
18 determined using Nanodrop spectrophotometer (Thermo Scientific) and the integrity of the RNA
19 was checked by determining RIN (RNA integrity number) using RNA ScreenTape System
20 (Agilent). Only RNA samples with RIN numbers higher than 7 were accepted for further
21 experimentation and analyses. Tissue eosinophilia was determined by a clinical histopathologist
22 by counting eosinophils in three high power fields (HPF) after staining the formalin-fixed paraffin-
23 embedded (FFPE) tissue sections with hematoxylin and eosin (H&E). The eosinophil counts on

24 CRS tissues were further confirmed by immunohistochemistry with anti-EPX (NBP2-13967,
25 Novus biologicals) antibody using ImmPRESS reagents (Vector laboratories) The eosinophil
26 counts obtained after immunostaining was comparable with counts after H&E staining. We used
27 eosinophil counts with anti-EPX immunostaining for our associations testing.

28 **Ex vivo Lung Culture**

29 Histologically normal lung tissue samples were obtained from patients who underwent surgical
30 resection for lung masses at the Yale Cancer Center. All tissue samples were used after approval
31 from the Yale Human Investigation Committee that approved the design of the study and patient
32 consent forms (HIC protocol # 1103008160). Patients were consented for gene expression
33 measurements before undergoing the surgical procedure. Fresh samples were kept in DMEM
34 (Dulbecco Minimal Essential Medium) supplemented with 10% fetal Bovine Serum (FBS) at 4
35 degrees for up to 12 hours before being delivered to the lab for ex vivo culture. The lung tissue
36 was cut into approximately 3-4mm size pieces and cultured in M199 (Life Technologies), 20%
37 FBS (Gibco, Life Technologies) at 37 C. For IL-13 stimulation, tissues were treated with 1 or
38 10ng/ml of human recombinant IL-13 (R&D Biosystems) and harvested after 24 hours. Tissues
39 were stored in Trizol at -80 C until RNA extraction. Total RNA samples were isolated using Trizol
40 followed by phenol/chloroform extraction, per the manufacturer's protocol. The concentration and
41 quality of these RNA samples were determined using Nanodrop spectrophotometer (Thermo
42 Scientific).

43 **Magnetic-Activated Cell Sorting (MACS) for endothelial isolation**

44 Endothelial (CD31+, CD45-) epithelial (CD326+, CD45-) and hematopoietic (CD45+) cells were
45 isolated from normal human lung tissues stimulated with IL-13 (or control PBS) and from OVA
46 challenged transgenic (or wildtype) mice. For single cell suspension, lung tissues were minced and

47 passed through 70µm filter using an ice-cold media. After centrifugation, the cell pellet was
48 washed and resuspended in cold separation buffer, containing PBS, 0.5% bovine serum albumin
49 (BSA) and 2 mM EDTA, incubated for 15 min at 4°C with anti CD45 microbeads (Miltenyi
50 Biotec). After labelling, cells were washed to remove unbound beads by adding 1 ml of separation
51 buffer, followed by centrifugation at 300 × g for 10 min. Cells were then resuspended in 1 ml of
52 separation buffer and applied onto a MACS Column (LD type, Miltenyi Biotec) placed in the
53 magnetic field of a MACS Separator (Miltenyi Biotec). The flow-through was collected as the
54 unlabelled negative fraction (CD45-). The column was then washed three times with 3 ml of
55 separation buffer and the retained magnetically labelled cells were flushed out with 1 ml of
56 separation buffer as the positive fraction (CD45+). Endothelial (CD31+, CD45-) fractions were
57 obtained from labelling CD45- cells with anti-CD31 microbeads and passing through the MACS
58 column (MS type). Similarly, epithelial positive (CD326+, CD45-) fractions were obtained from
59 labelling CD45- cells with anti-CD 326 (EpCAM) microbeads

60 **Allergen sensitization and challenge in mice**

61 Six to 8 week-old C57 female BL6 mice were sensitized and challenged with OVA and HDM as
62 described previously.² In the HDM model, mice were sensitized by delivery of ~1 µg DerP1 (Greer
63 Labs) per mouse through intraperitoneal (or intranasal) routes. Lentiviral vectors were delivered
64 through intranasal route 2 weeks before the challenge steps in OVA and HDM models. In
65 transgenic mice, miR-1 transgene was induced at least 4 days before the antigenic challenge by
66 adding Doxycycline to the drinking water.³

67 **BAL and lung tissue analyses**

68 BAL fluids were collected, processed, stained and analyzed or cytology performed as described
69 previously.² BAL cytokines were measured using Bioplex (biorad) or U-plex (MSD) according to

70 the manufacturer's instructions. A Nikon DS Ri2 microscope was used for all the histometric
71 measurements. Lung inflammation and mucus metaplasia were quantified as described previously²
72 using formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded sections stained with hematoxylin and eosin (H&E) or
73 periodic acid-Schiff (PAS), respectively. Tissue eosinophilia was quantified by counting of
74 eosinophils/bronchovascular areas in sections stained with Congo Red and expressed as the
75 number of the eosinophils /mm², as described previously.²

76 **Measurement of AHR**

77 24 hours after the last challenge, pulmonary resistance was measured by the forced oscillation
78 technique in response to increasing concentrations of methacholine using the FlexiVent system
79 (SCIREQ, Canada) as previously described.² Briefly, mice were anesthetized with 20 mg/kg
80 pentobarbital and 1.8 g/kg urethane. In the parallel experiment, the adequacy of the dose of the
81 administered sedative for sedation up to four hours were determined. Once the mice were
82 completely anaesthetized, tracheostomy was performed, and a tubing adaptor (20 gauge) was used
83 to cannulate the trachea. The mice were injected with 0.4 mg/kg pancuronium bromide and then
84 attached to a rodent ventilator and pulmonary mechanics analyzer (FlexiVent; SCIREQ, Canada)
85 and ventilated at a tidal volume of 10 ml/kg, a frequency of 150 breaths/minute, and 2 cm H₂O
86 positive end-expiratory pressure. Each mouse was challenged with saline (0 mg/ml) followed by
87 increasing concentrations of methacholine aerosol (10–100 mg/ml) generated with an in-line
88 nebulizer and administered directly through the ventilator for 10 seconds. Mean airway resistance
89 (cmH₂O.s/ml) was measured and plotted by the machine at each methacholine concentration.

90 **Eosinophil isolation**

91 In order to choose the best isolation method for our assays we performed a comparison between
92 the rapid method with the use of chemotactic peptide⁴ and magnetic antibody sorting-negative

93 selection method (MACSxpress, Miltenyi). In the rapid isolation method, whole blood was
94 collected from the healthy donors (15-20ml each) with large bore butterfly needles and drawn into
95 a syringe containing citrate phosphate dextrose (CPD), a 6% HMW Dextran and f-Met-Leu-Phe
96 (10^{-6} to 10^{-7} mol/L). After 45-60 minutes, plasma and red blood cells were separated, and plasma
97 was removed carefully with the help of butterfly needle tubing into a fresh tube to avoid RBC
98 contamination. After 6 min of centrifugation the supernatant was discarded and the cell pellet was
99 resuspended in PBS and then added to Histopaque 1077 and 1190 (Sigma-Aldrich). The cell
100 suspension was then centrifuged twice, the supernatants were discarded, and the eosinophil buffy
101 layer was resuspended in 0.01% glucose solution (in PBS with Mg^{+} and Ca^{+}) at a concentration
102 of 1×10^5 cells/mL as determined by hemocytometer counts. Contaminating red blood cells were
103 lysed using RBC lysis solution.(Sigma Aldrich) The purity of the isolated eosinophils was
104 determined by HEMA 3 staining (usually >95%). Trypan blue staining (Life technologies) was
105 used to monitor the viability of the isolated eosinophils (usually >98%). In the negative selection
106 method an antibody cocktail was used for isolation of eosinophils from whole blood, as per the
107 manufacture's protocol (MACSxpress, Miltenyi). The viability and purity of eosinophils were
108 ~92% and >95%, respectively. The main contaminants were red blood cells, and they were lysed
109 using blood lysis solution. The yield with magnetic method was ~10-15% lower than the rapid
110 method. Since in our hands the rapid method had higher yield and slightly higher viability and
111 purity, we chose to use this method for our experiments.

112 **Adhesion Assays**

113 Eosinophil adhesion and movement were measured as described previously^{5, 6} with some
114 modifications. Briefly, HUVECs were transduced with v-miR-1 or control (v-ctrl), seeded on
115 25mm coverslips (Fisher Scientific) and grown to confluence to form a monolayer (cobblestone

116 morphology was visually determined). These cells were then starved in M199 (Life Technologies),
117 2% FBS (Gibco, Life Technologies) for 4 hours before being treated with human recombinant IL-
118 13 (R&D) at 1ng/ml or vehicle. Adhesion assay was performed 24 hours after IL-13 stimulation.
119 Eosinophils were isolated on the day of the adhesion experiment as described above, diluted to a
120 concentration of 1×10^5 cells/mL in PBS (with Mg^{+} and Ca^{+}) and glucose and 1ml of this
121 suspension was added to the apical surface of an enclosed Sykes-Moore adhesion chamber. The
122 chambers were then incubated for 500 seconds at $37^{\circ}C$, after which the number of eosinophils on
123 the endothelial surface were counted. Next, the chambers were inverted for 500 seconds to detach
124 the non-adherent eosinophils. Firmly adherent eosinophils were then counted, and % adherent cells
125 were calculated.

126 For measuring the eosinophil movement on the HUVEC, freshly isolated eosinophils (about 1×10^5
127 cells/ml) were injected into Sykes-Moore adhesion chamber containing the endothelial monolayer.
128 After allowing the solution to settle, a time-lapse sequence was captured using a Nikon Eclipse
129 TE2000-U microscope and NIS-Elements imaging software. Images were taken at 15-second
130 intervals over 15 minutes and were analyzed using ImageJ software (NIH). Eosinophils were
131 tracked using the Manual Tracking plug-in and trajectories were plotted using X, Y-coordinates
132 and average velocity was calculated for each eosinophil.

133 **miRISC Recruitment Analysis**

134 HUVECs were purchased from the Yale Vascular Biology and Therapeutics tissue culture core
135 facility, grown in 10-cm plates and transduced with lenti miR-1. 36-48 h after transduction, cells
136 were checked for fluorescence and then collected by scraping in cold PBS, spun down (300 g for
137 10 min at $4^{\circ}C$), and resuspended in 250 μ l of cold lysis buffer (10 mM Hepes, pH 7.4, 150 mM
138 KCl, 3 mM $MgCl_2$, 0.2 mM DTT, 10% glycerol, 0.5% NP-40, and 1 mM PMSF). Part of this

139 lysate was kept as “input fraction,” and the rest was immunoprecipitated with anti-Ago2 antibody
140 (Sigma-Aldrich) and dynabeads protein A (Life Technologies). The beads were directly added to
141 TRIzol after washing three times (wash buffer: 0.1M NaP pH 8.0) and the RNA extracted with
142 Phenol-chloroform extraction protocol.

143

144 REFERENCES FOR SUPPLEMENTARY METHODS

145

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E1a.

Characteristics of Asthma cohort		
	Control Subjects (n = 11)	Asthma Patients (n = 59)
Age (year)		
Mean (Range)	36.8 (26-68)	44.5 (14-75)
Gender		
Male	6 (54.54%)	17 (27.87%)
Female	5 (45.45%)	42 (71.18%)
BMI [kg/m ²] (Mean, SD)	23.53 ± 2.9	29.34 ± 7.03
History of atopy, n (%)	6 (54.54%)	54 (91.52%)
Hospitalization for asthma (Lifetime), n (%)	NA	23 (38.98%)
Hospitalization for asthma (past year), n (%)	NA	10 (16.94%)
ACT score (Mean, SD)	NA	15.87 ± 6.403
FEV ₁ -% of predicted value (Mean, SD)	95.46 ± 11.83	77.74 ± 24.31
FVC-% of predicted value (Mean, SD)	101.45 ± 14.9	88.24 ± 21.39
OCS use	0 (0 %)	6 (10.17%)
ICS use	0 (0%)	40 (67.79%)

E1b.

Characteristics of CRS cohorts		
	Low Eosinophils (n = 20)	High Eosinophils (n = 20)
Age (year)		
Mean (range)	48.15 (19-83)	46 (21-67)
Gender		
Male	13 (65%)	9 (45%)
Female	7 (35%)	11 (55%)
Presence of Polyp	5 (25%)	5 (25%)
*OCS use	4 (21.05%)	6 (33.33%)
*ICS use	12 (63.15%)	16 (88.88%)
*Co-existence of Asthma	2 (10.52%)	6 (33.33%)

*Data available for n=19 for low eosinophils and n=18 for high eosinophils

Table I: Clinical correlations of miR-1 levels in the Asthma patients

Variable	n=70
Age	P = 0.4158, r= -0.0988
Gender	P = 0.351
Atopy	P = 0.4711
Hospitalization for asthma (lifetime)	P = 0.0047, r = -0.3339
Hospitalization for asthma (past year)	P = 0.0163, r = -0.2862
ACT score	P = 0.0158, r = 0.2875
*FEV1 % predicted	P = 0.0007, r = 0.3996
*FVC % predicted	P = 0.0008, r = 0.3961
OCS use	P = 0.2082, r = -0.1523
ICS use	P = 0.0039, r = -0.3409
**Sputum cytology	
Eosinophils	P = 0.0132, r = -0.3037
Neutrophils	P = 0.0778, r = -0.2187
Macrophages	P = 0.8875, r = -0.01774
Lymphocytes	P = 0.9132, r = 0.01368

*Data available for n=68, **Data available for n=66.

ACT score- asthma control test score, FEV1- forced expiratory volume in the first second,
 FVC- forced vital capacity, OCS- oral corticosteroid, ICS- Inhaled corticosteroid
 r : Spearman correlation coefficient. P : p-value for the comparison

1 **SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURE LEGENDS**

2 **(Supplemental figure E1):** a) Association of miR-1 and eosinophils in CRS tissues. Eosinophils were
3 counted after H&E staining. (n=40, $r = -0.5784$, $P < 0.00001$ Spearman). Representative images of CRS
4 tissues after H&E (b) and immunohistochemistry with anti-EPX antibody (c) (400X magnification).

5 **(Supplemental figure E2):** Lung tissue samples from one subject was fractionated by magnetic immune
6 sorting into immune (CD45+), epithelial (CD326+, CD45-); and endothelial (CD31+, CD45-) fractions
7 after being cultured and treated with recombinant IL-13 (10ng/ml) or PBS (control). MiR-1/18s levels
8 were measured, normalized to its respective control, and presented as $2^{-\Delta\Delta Ct}$ (n=1).

9 **(Supplemental figure E3)** Wild type C57BL/6 mice were sensitized with OVA and received intranasal
10 v-miR-1 or v-ctrl vector 2 weeks before OVA aerosol challenge. (a) Cytokines were measured in the BAL
11 of these mice using Biorad Luminex method. (n=8, * $P=0.0328$). (b) mRNA measured in RNA isolated
12 from lungs of V-miR-1 or V-ctrl received mice after OVA challenge (n=4, $P= 0.33, 0.34, 0.32, 0.42$). Data
13 were assessed by Student's unpaired t-test

14 **(Supplemental figure E4)** MiR-1 transgenic (miR-1 tg) and wildtype mice were sensitized with OVA
15 and then received booster after a week. These mice were put on doxycycline to induce vascular-specific
16 miR-1 transgene in transgenic, 14 days after sensitization and then after a week, challenged for 3 days. (a)
17 Cytokines were measured in the BAL of these mice using Biorad Luminex. (n=5 or 7, $P=ns$). (b) mRNA
18 measured in RNA isolated from lungs of WT or miR-1 TG mice after OVA challenge. (n= 5 WT and 10
19 miR-1 TG, $P= 0.35, 0.44, 0.41, 0.072$). Data were assessed by Student's unpaired t-test.

20 **(Supplemental figure E5)** MiR-1 tg and wildtype mice were sensitized intranasally with 1 μ g HDM (Der
21 P1) or PBS on days 1. Mice were challenged intranasally with 2 μ g HDM (Der P1) on days 10, 11, 12 and
22 14. These mice were put on doxycycline to induce vascular-specific miR-1 transgene on day 9 until the
23 sacrifice day 15. (a) Cytokines were measured in the BAL of these mice using MSD multiplex. (n=4 or
24 12, $P=ns$). (b) mRNA measured in RNA isolated from lungs of WT or miR-1 TG mice after HDM
25 challenge. (n= 7 WT and 16 miR-1 TG, $P= 0.88, 0.7, 0.68, 0.7$) Data were assessed by Student's unpaired
26 t-test

27 **Supplemental figure E6: The effect of miR-1 on eosinophil-endothelial interaction.** HUVECs were
28 transduced with V-miR-1 or V-ctrl and then exposed to eosinophils freshly isolated by negative selection
29 method from healthy human subjects. Eosinophil adhesion assay in Sykes-Moore adhesion chamber. The

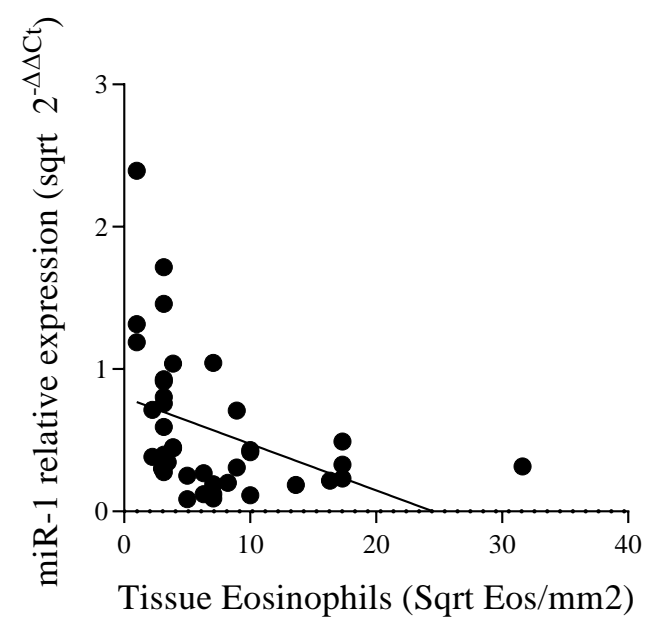
30 percentages of eosinophils bound to the HUVEC surface were plotted for each group (n=11, data from 2
31 experiments. *p=0.0305, Mann-Whitney test) Error bars represent SEM.

32 **(Supplemental figure E7):** HUVECs were starved for 3 hrs and then treated with increasing doses of
33 human recombinant IL13 for 3 hr. P-selectin expression on cell surface was measured by flow cytometry.
34 Left panel is showing histogram for SELP levels at the surface of HUVECs after stimulation with various
35 concentrations of human recombinant IL-13. Percentage of SELP positive cell count was plotted in the
36 right panel (n=3 *P<0.01 and **P<0.001).

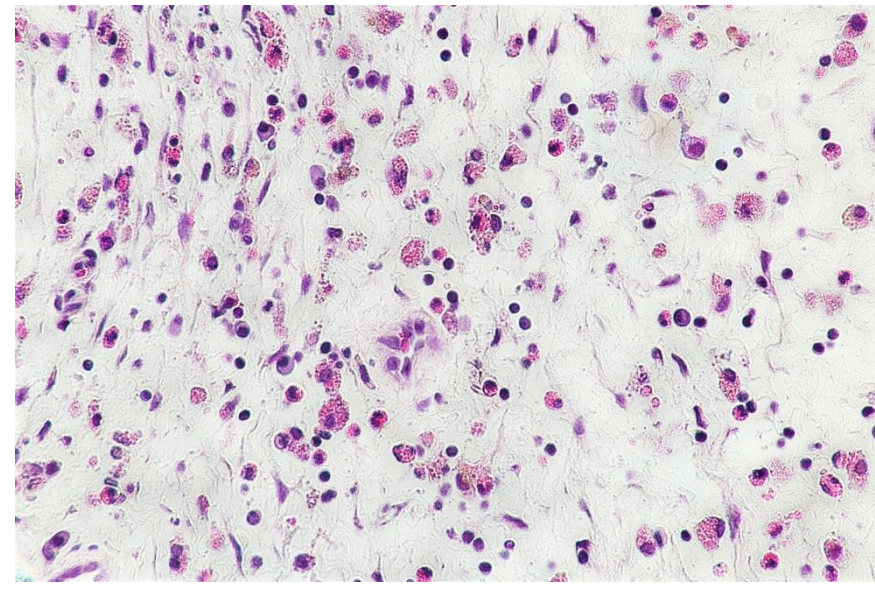
37 **(Supplemental figure E8):** mRNA expression levels for T2 genes in the high- and low-eosinophil CRS
38 samples described in figure 1a. **(a)** POSTN (Periostin): n= 14, and 15; P=0.0769 **(b)** CSF2: n=13, and 15;
39 P=0.2539 **(c)** IL-6: n=18, and 17; P=0.3865 **(d)** IL-4: n=20, and 20; P=0.3547 **(e)** IL-5: n=20, and 20;
40 P=0.3273 and **(f)** IL-13: n= 20, and 18; P=0.2637. In each graph, mean and SEM are represented as red
41 line and error bars respectively. N depicts the number of samples in each group (low- and high-eosinophil)
42 for which data was available. P depicts p-values assessed by Mann-Whitney test. POSTN, Periostin;
43 CSF2, Colony Stimulating Factor 2; IL-6, Interleukin 6; IL-4, Interleukin 4; IL-5, Interleukin 5; IL-13,
44 Interleukin 13

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a

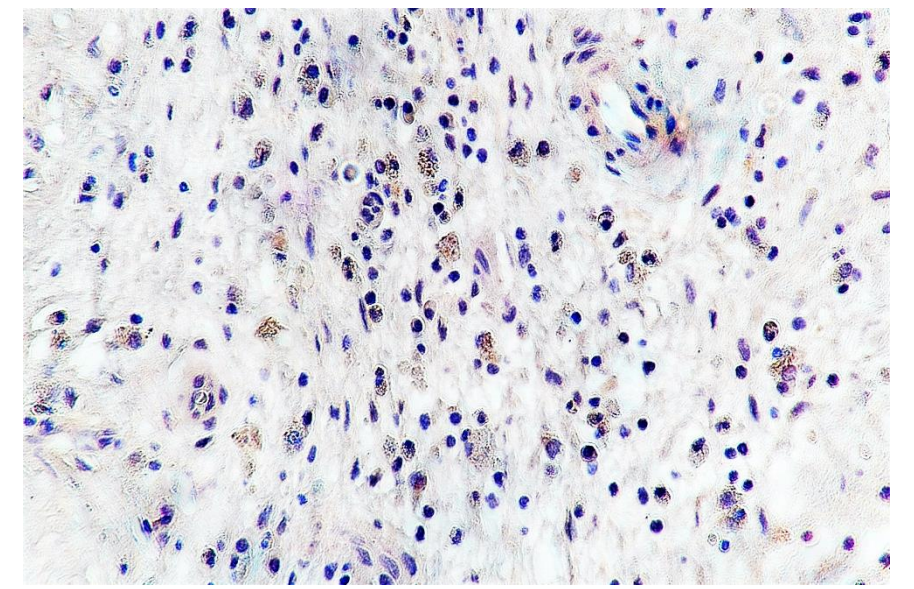


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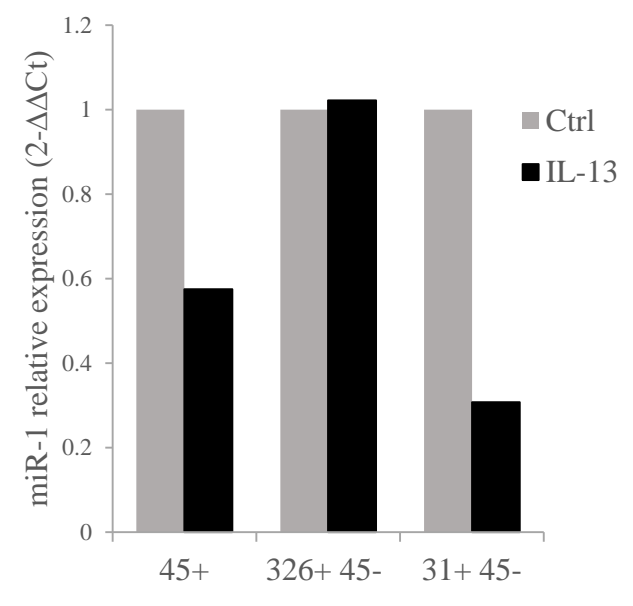


H&E

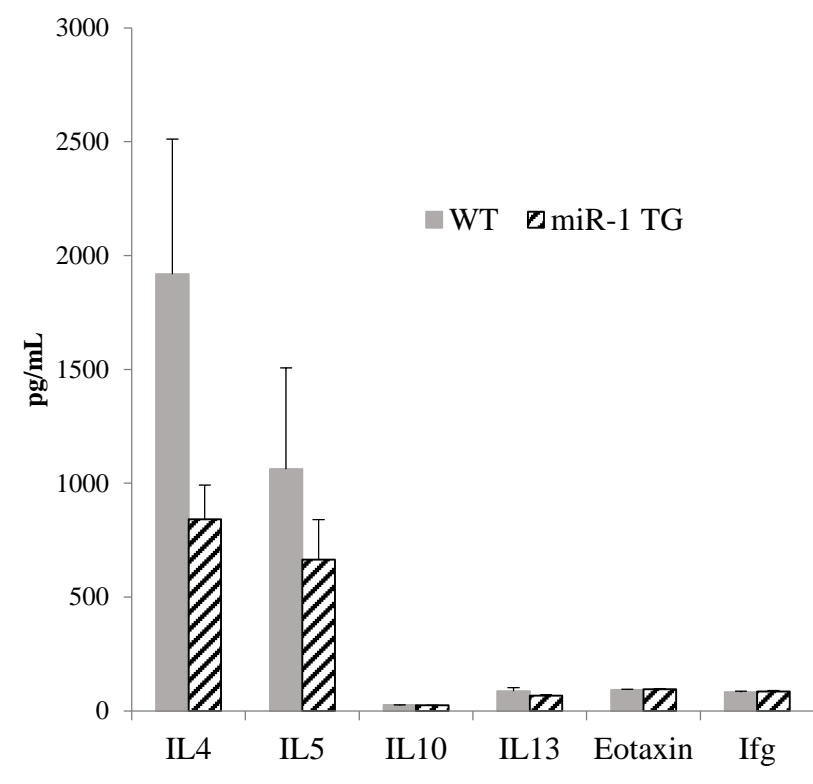
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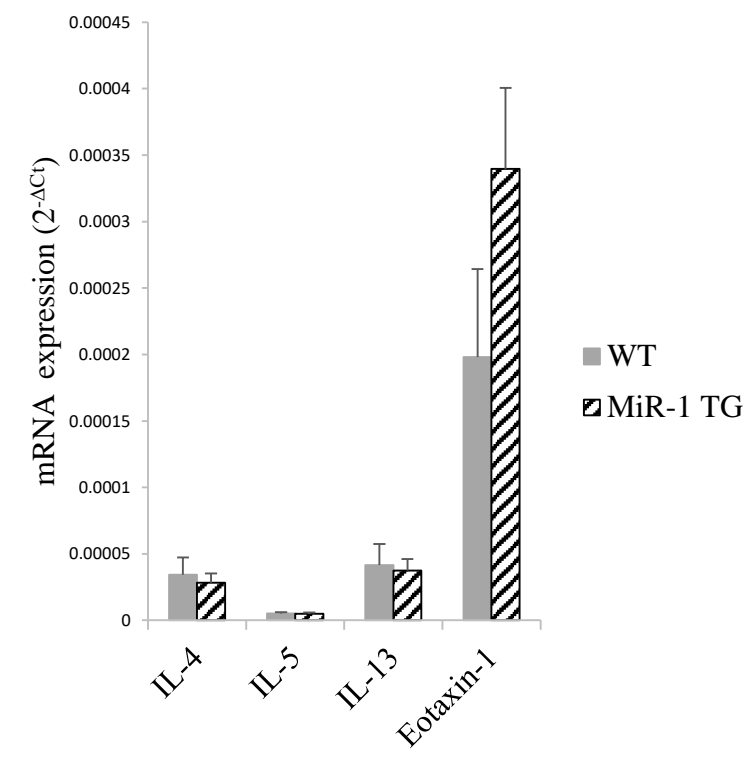
Anti-EPX= Brown



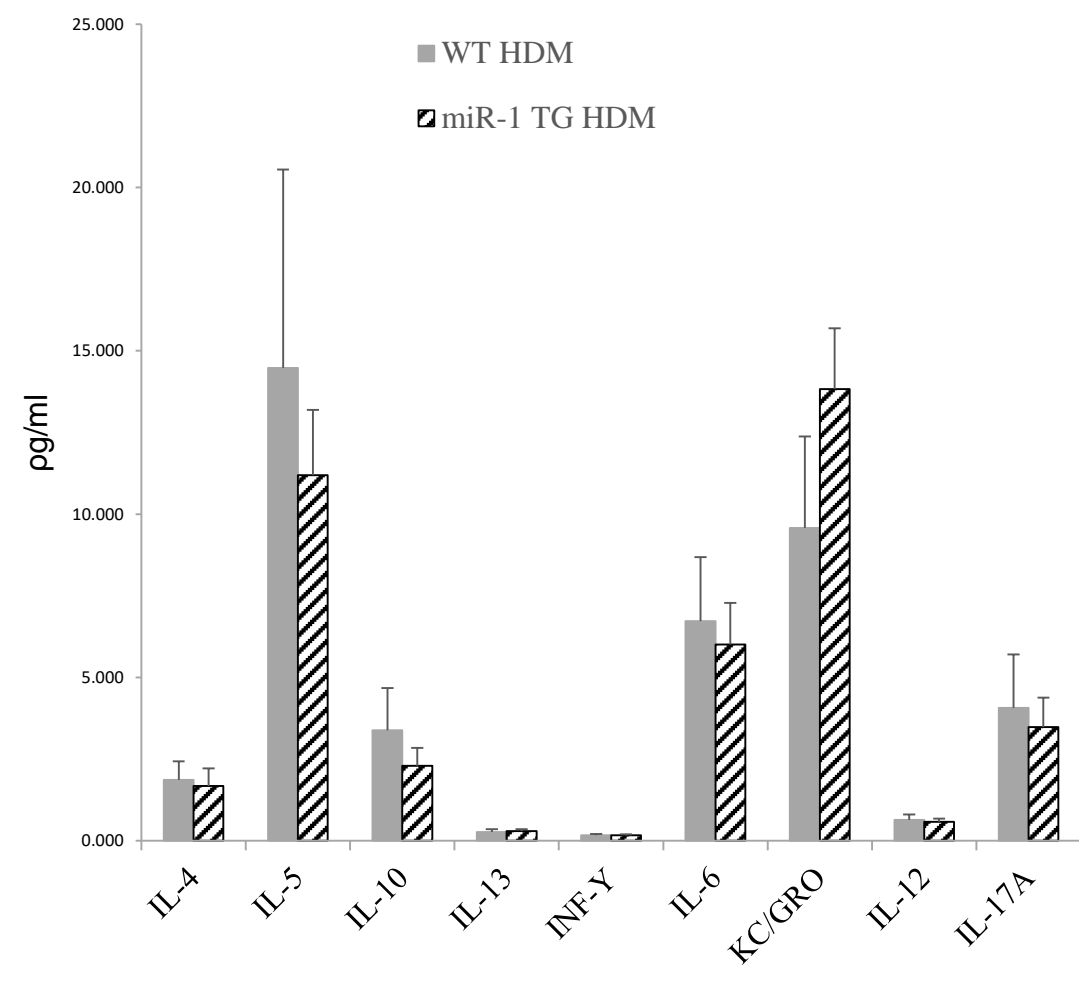
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