

Supplementary Materials for

Interleukin-11 signaling promotes cellular reprogramming and limits fibrotic scarring during tissue regeneration

Srinivas Allanki, Boris Strilic, Lilly Scheinberger, Yeszamin L. Onderwater, Alora Marks, Stefan Günther, Jens Preussner, Khrievono Kikhi, Mario Looso, Didier Y. R. Stainier, Sven Reischauer*

*Corresponding author. Email: s.reischauer@kerckhoff-fgi.de

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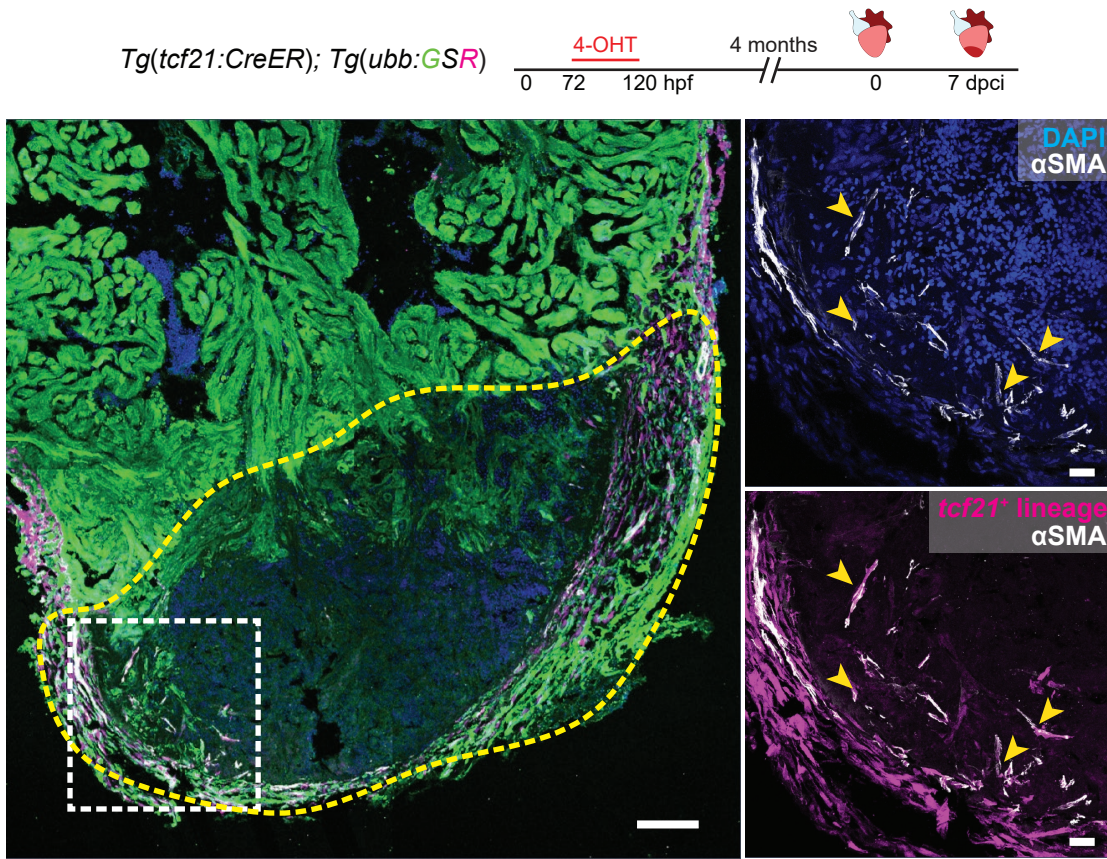
The PDF file includes:

Figs. S1 to S13
Legends for tables S1 to S6

Other Supplementary Material for this manuscript includes the following:

Tables S1 to S6

A



B

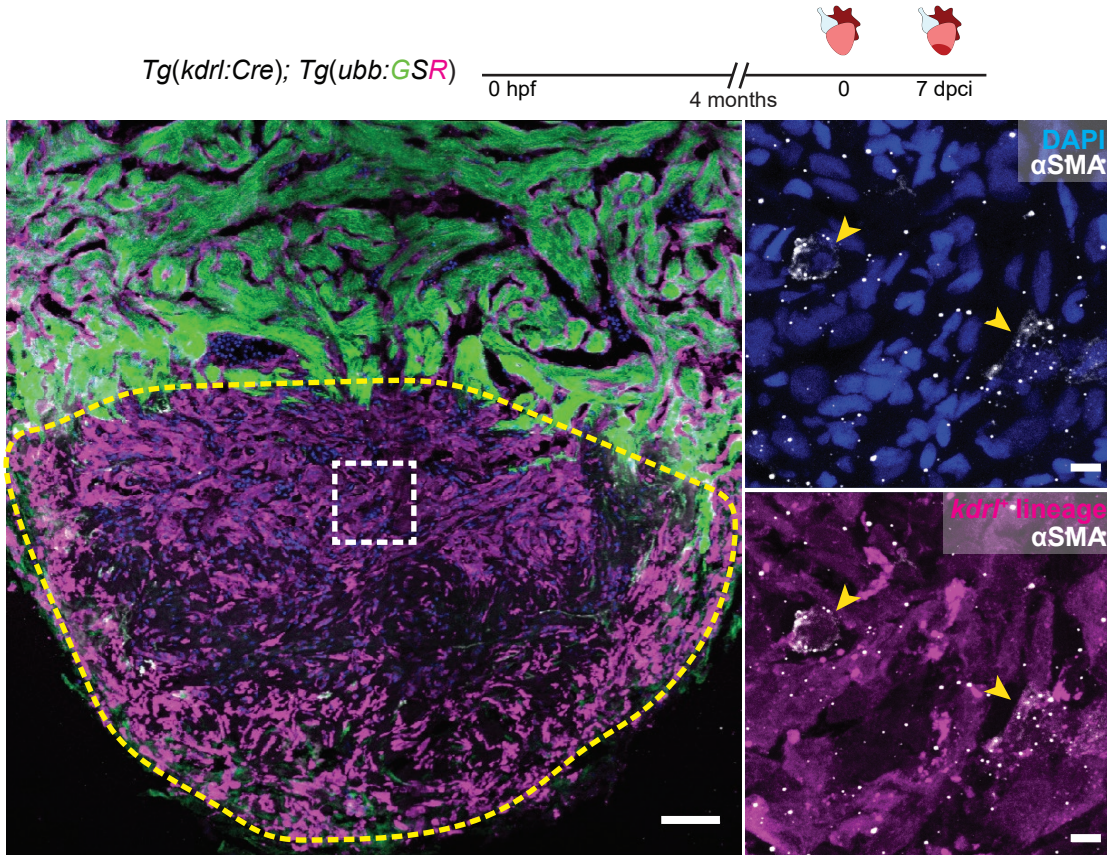


Figure S1. Analysis of myofibroblast origin during zebrafish cardiac regeneration.

(A) Experimental design and immunostaining (GFP - green, α SMA – white, and mCherry – magenta; n=4; 7 dpci) on cryosections from *Tg(tcf21:CreER); Tg(ubb:GSR)* ventricles. (B) Experimental design and immunostaining (GFP - green, α SMA – white, and mCherry – magenta; n=4; 7 dpci) on cryosections from *Tg(kdrl:Cre); Tg(ubb:GSR)* ventricles. n= ventricles (A, B). Yellow dashed lines demarcate the injured area (A, B); arrowheads point to α SMA⁺ cells derived from *tcf21*⁺ lineage (A insets) and *kdrl*⁺ lineage (B insets). Scale bars, 100 μ m (A), 50 μ m (B), 10 μ m (A insets), 5 μ m (B insets).

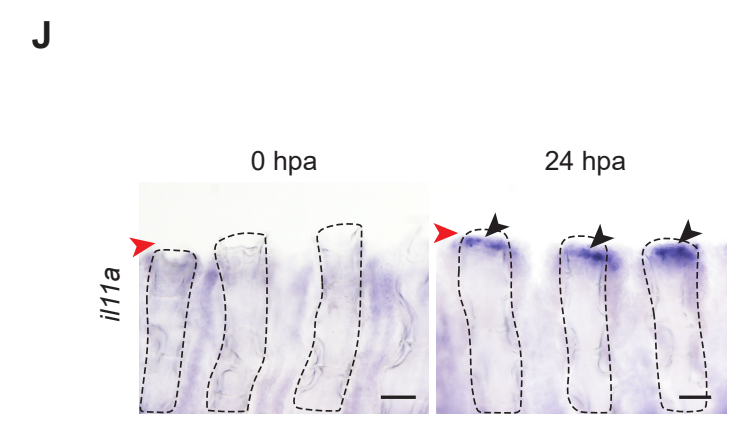
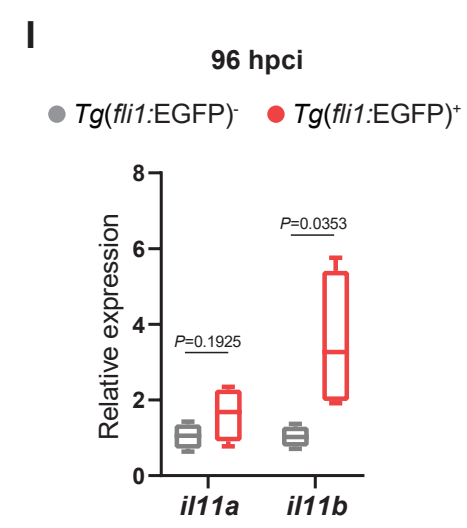
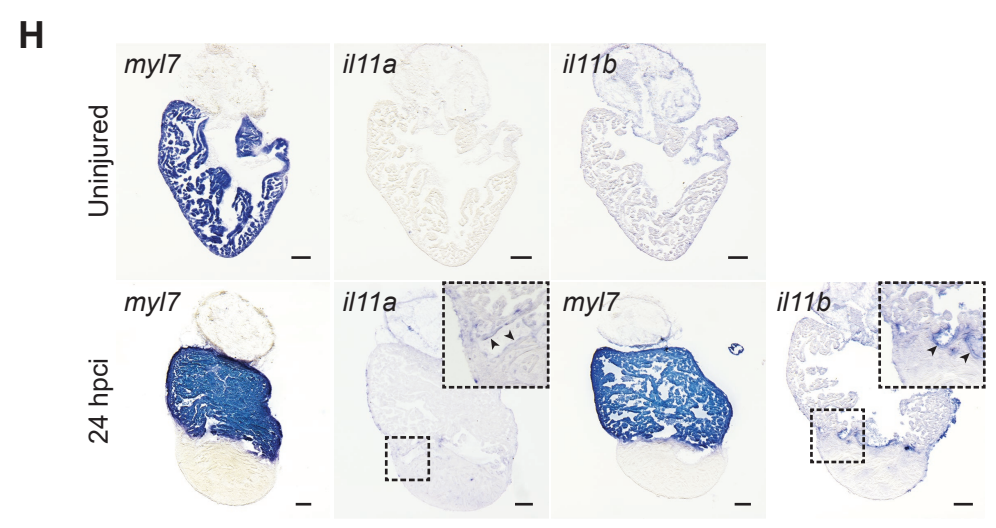
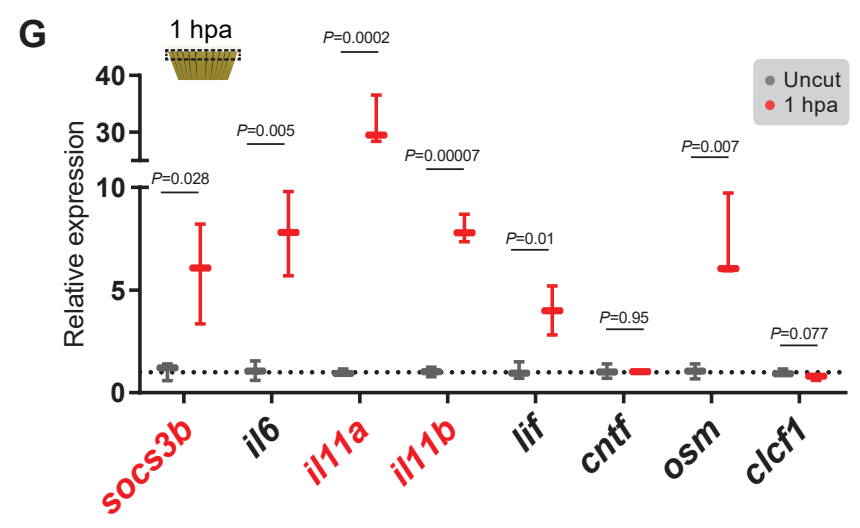
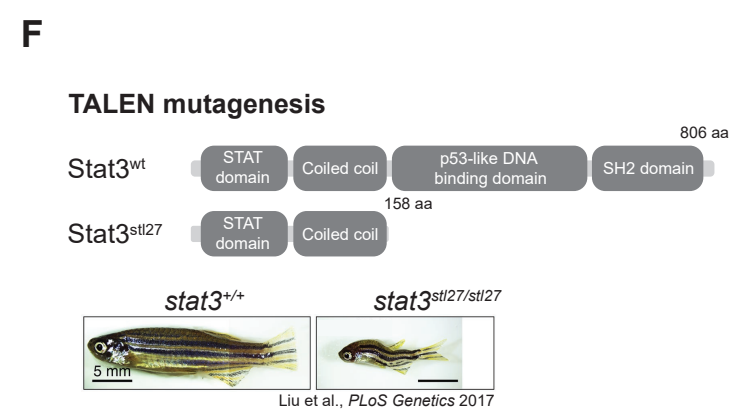
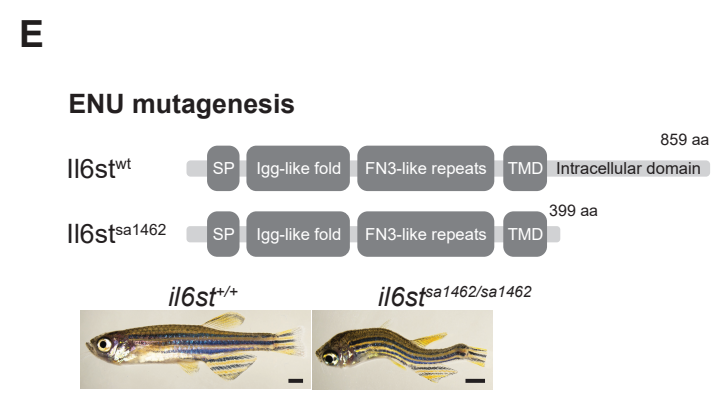
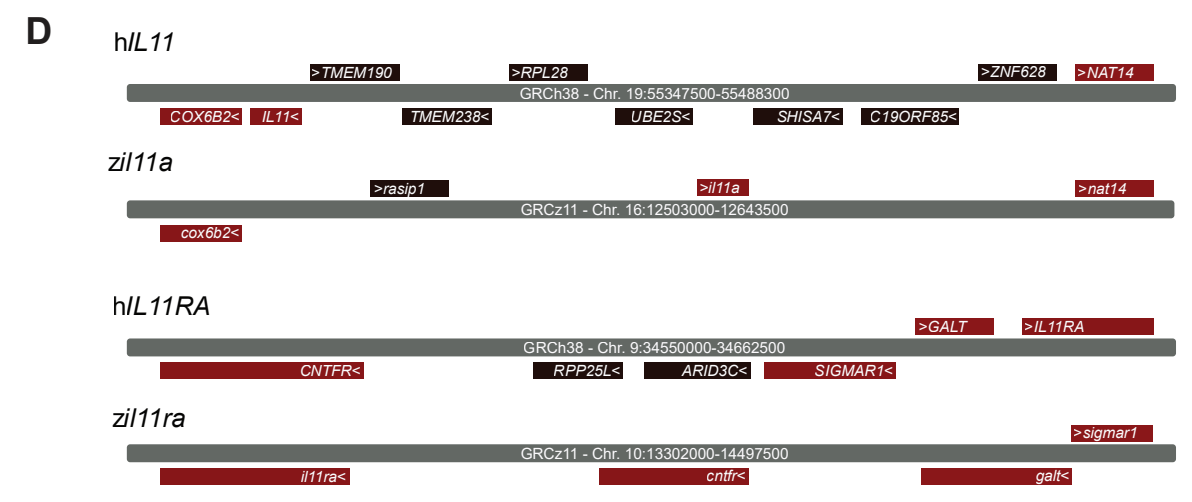
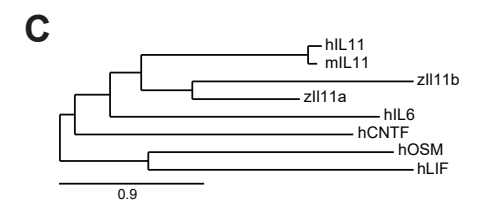
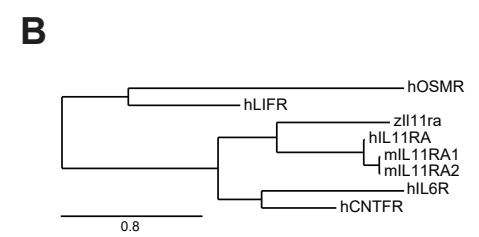
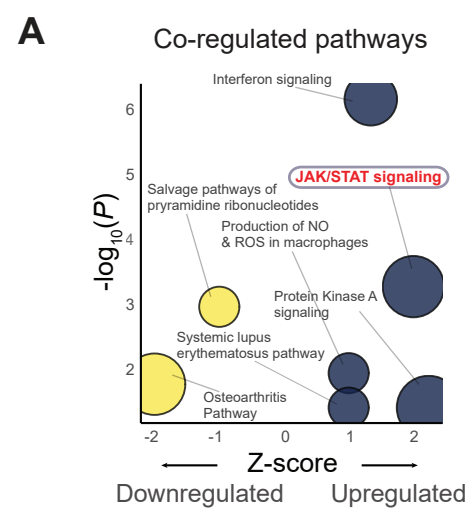


Figure S2. Il-11/Il6st/Stat3 pathway is activated post-injury.

(A) Results from pathway analysis using Ingenuity pathway analysis (IPA). (B and C) Phylogenetic analysis of human, mouse, and zebrafish Il-11 cytokine receptor (B) and ligands (C). (D) Synteny analysis for human and zebrafish genes encoding Il-11 ligands and receptors; gene sizes are not to scale. (E and F) Illustration of wild-type and the predicted mutant proteins, gross morphology of adult zebrafish mutants (E, *il6st^{sal1462}*; F, *stat3^{stl27}*) and their respective wild-type siblings. (G) RT-qPCR analysis of Il-6 family cytokine mRNA levels (1 hpa, n=3; uncut, n=3) on adult caudal fins. (H) Brightfield images of RNA *in situ* hybridization for *myl7*, *ill1a*, *ill1b* on 11 μ m thick cryosections from uninjured and 24 hpci wild-type ventricles. (I) RT-qPCR analysis on sorted *Tg(fli1:EGFP)⁺* vs. *Tg(fli1:EGFP)⁻* cardiac ventricular cells (96 hpci, n=4 each). (J) Brightfield images of RNA *in situ* hybridization for *ill1a* on wholemount adult caudal fins, 24 hpa. SP: signal peptide (E); TMD: transmembrane domain (E). Box plots (G, I) show median, interquartile range (IQR, box margins) and 5th and 95th percentiles (whiskers). Student's *t*-tests (G, I). n= pools of 2 caudal fins (G); n= pools of two ventricles (I). Black arrowheads point to border zone endothelial gene expression (H) and blastemal expression (J); red arrowheads point to the amputation plane (J); black dashed lines outline the fin rays (J). Ct values are listed in table S5. Photo Credit: Adult zebrafish gross morphology images in F were obtained from Liu et al. (22). The photos were published under a CC-BY license ([hyperlink](#)). Scale bars, 1 mm (E), 5 mm (F), 200 μ m (H), 100 μ m (J).

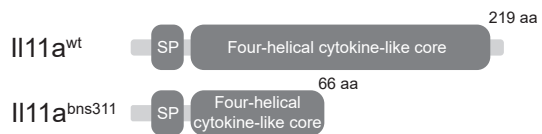
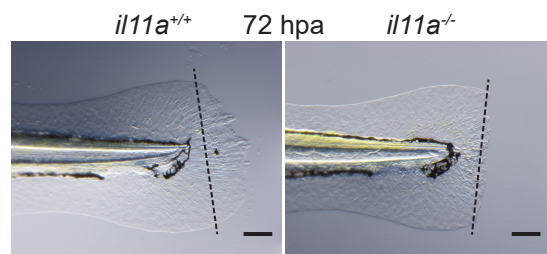
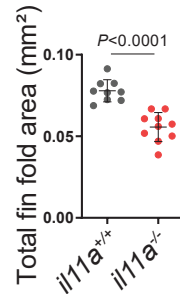
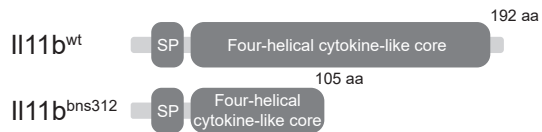
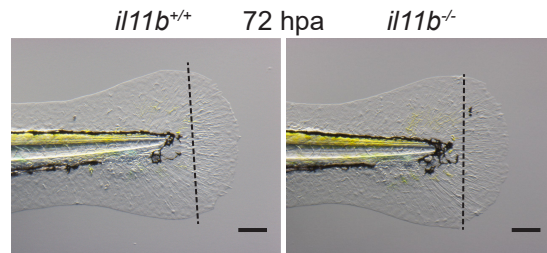
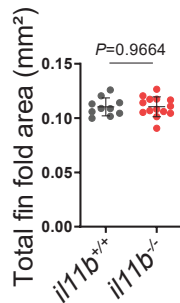
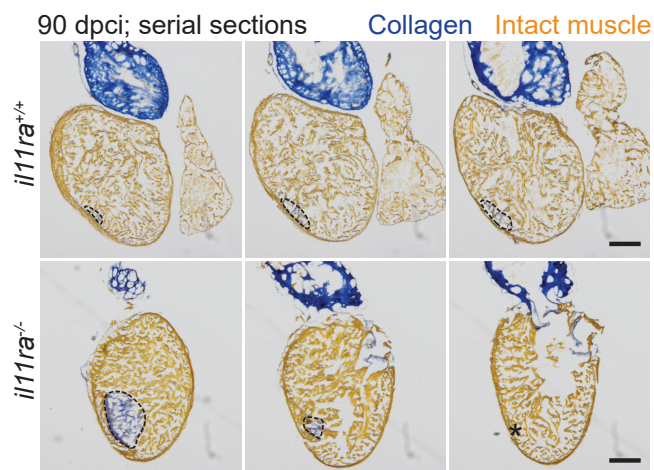
A**CRISPR-Cas9 mutagenesis****B****C****D****CRISPR-Cas9 mutagenesis****E****F**

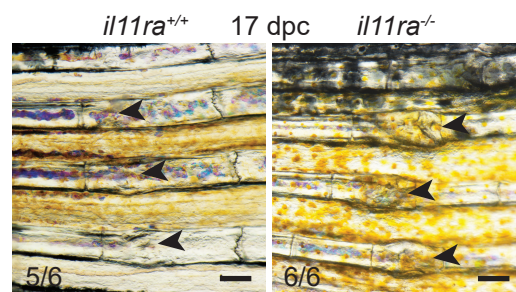
Figure S3. Il-11a signaling is essential for larval fin fold regeneration.

(A to F) Illustration of wild-type and the predicted mutant proteins (A, Il11a^{bns311}; D, Il11b^{bns312}), brightfield images of larval fin fold regeneration (amputated at 48-72 hpf), and their corresponding quantification of the fin fold area at 72 hpa (B and C, *il11a*^{bns311}, wt siblings, n=9; mut, n=10; E and F, *il11b*^{bns312}, wt siblings, n=10; mut, n=14). SP: signal peptide (A, D). Data represent mean \pm S.D. (C, F). Student's *t*-tests (C, F). n= larvae (C, F). Black dashed lines demarcate the amputation plane (B, E). Scale bars, 100 μ m (B, E).

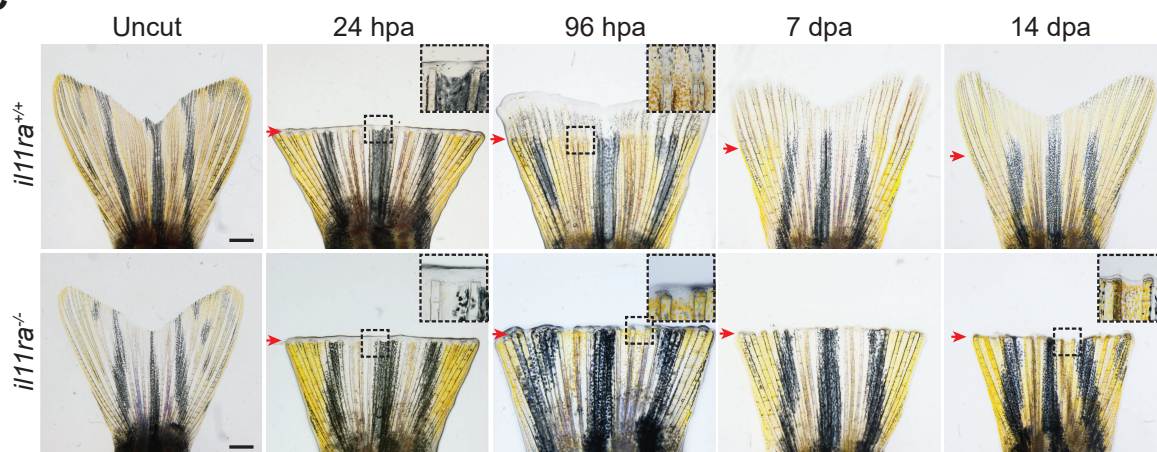
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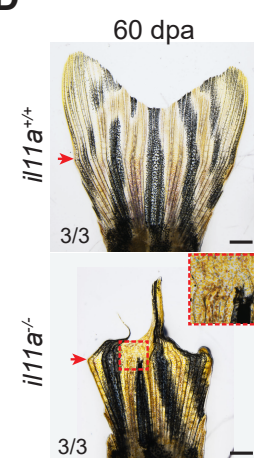
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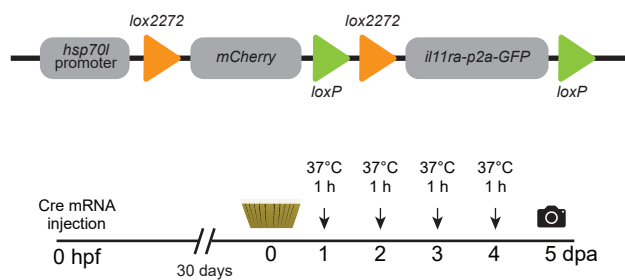
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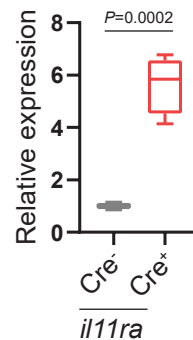
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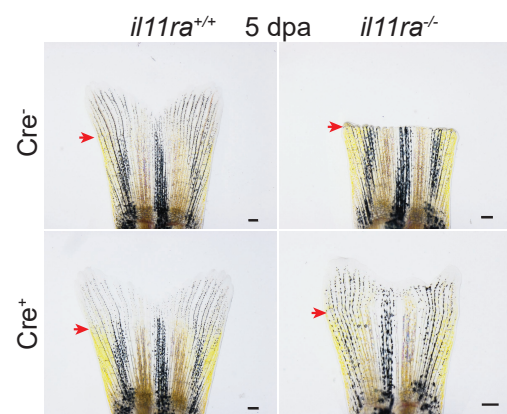
E



F



G



Tg(hsp70l:loxp-lox2272-mCherry-loxp-il11ra-V5-p2a-GFP-lox2272)

Figure S4. Il-11 signaling is essential for adult heart and fin generation.

(A) AFOG staining on serial cryosections from *ill1ra*^{-/-} vs. wild-type sibling ventricles, 90 dpci, corresponding to Fig. 2H. (B) Wholemout images of bone crush injury in *ill1ra*^{-/-} (n= 6) vs. wild-type (n= 6) caudal fins at 17 days post crush (dpc). (C) Wholemout images of time course of caudal fin regeneration in *ill1ra*^{-/-} vs. wild-type siblings. (D) Wholemout images of caudal fin regeneration in *ill1ra*^{-/-} (n=3) vs. wild-type siblings (n=3), 60 dpa. (E) Illustration of *ill1ra* re-expression construct and experimental set-up. (F) RT-qPCR analysis to test the induction of *ill1ra* expression in caudal fins of *Tg(hsp70l:loxp-lox2272-mCherry-loxp-ill1ra-V5-p2a-GFP-lox2272)* zebrafish (n=4 each; Cre mRNA injected vs. uninjected), 5 dpa. (G) Wholemout images of fin regeneration at 5 dpa in *Tg(hsp70l:loxp-lox2272-mCherry-loxp-ill1ra-V5-p2a-GFP-lox2272)* zebrafish in *ill1ra*^{-/-} vs. wild-type backgrounds, and with or without Cre mRNA injection at the one-cell stage. Box plot (F) shows median, interquartile range (IQR, box margins) and 5th and 95th percentiles (whiskers). Student's *t*-test (F). n= adult caudal fins (B, D, F). Black dashed lines and asterisk demarcate the injured area (A); black arrowheads point to crushed regions in the adult caudal fins (B); red arrows point to the amputation plane (C, D, G). Ct values are listed in table S5. Scale bars, 200 μm (A, G), 100 μm (B), 1 mm (C, D).

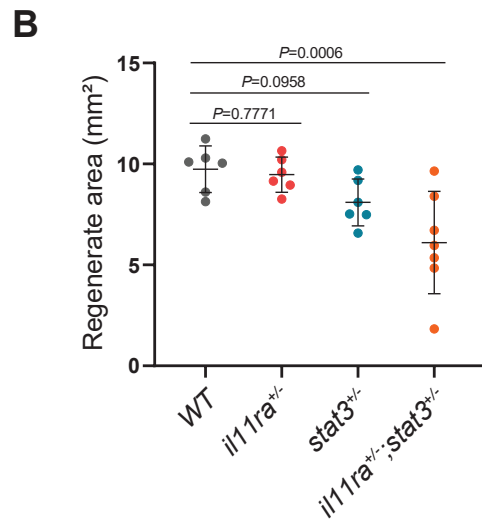


Figure S5. Adult caudal fin regeneration in *ill1ra*^{bns251/+};*stat3*^{stl27/+}.

(A and B) Wholemout images of caudal fin regeneration in *ill1ra*^{+/-} (n=6), *stat3*^{+/-} (n=6), *ill1ra*^{+/-};*stat3*^{+/-} (n=7) vs. wild-type siblings (n=6) (A) and quantification of the regenerate area, 7 dpa (B). n= caudal fins (A). Data represent mean ± S.D. (B). One-way ANOVA (B). Red arrows point to the amputation plane (A). Scale bar: 1 mm (A).

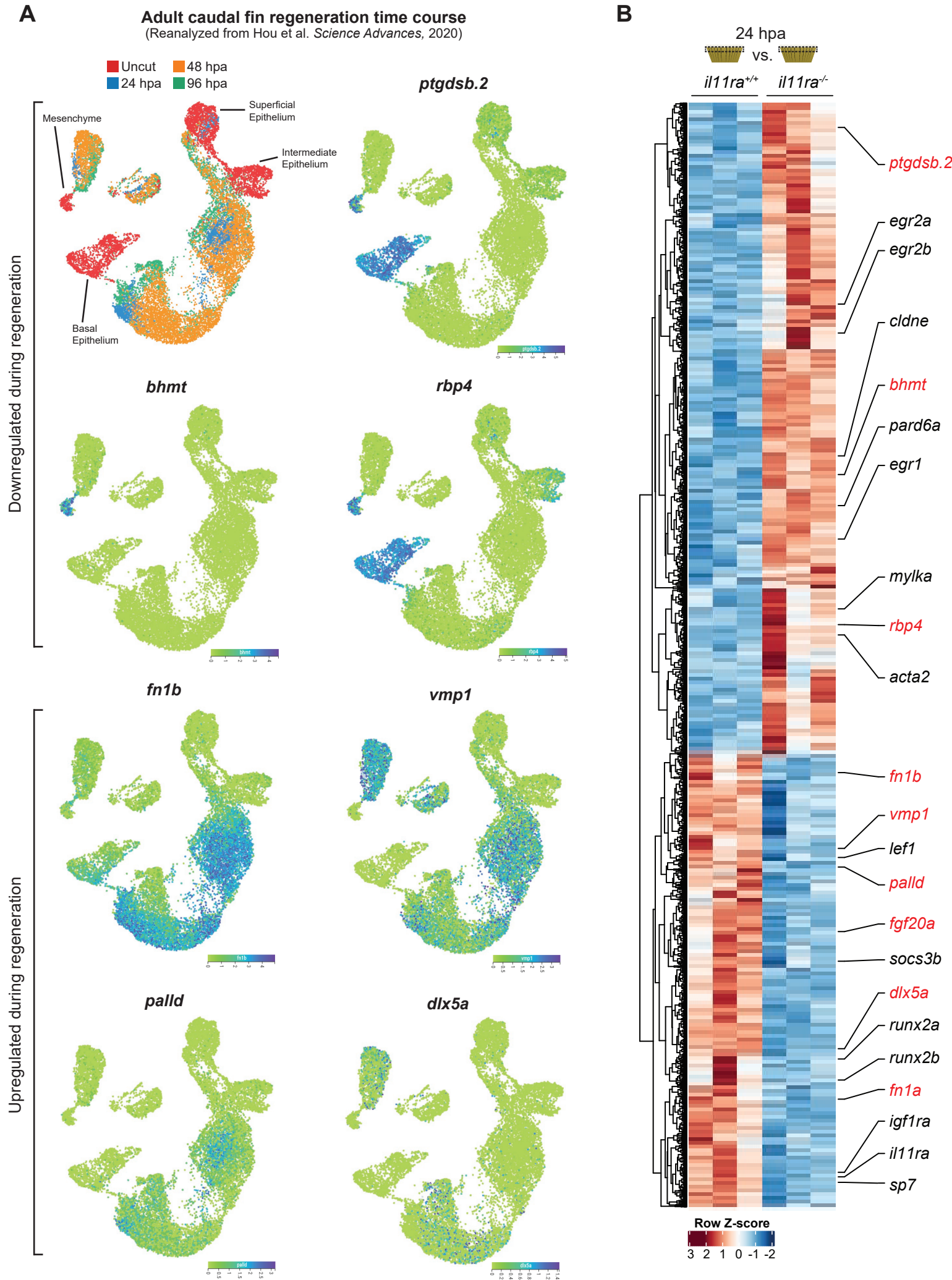
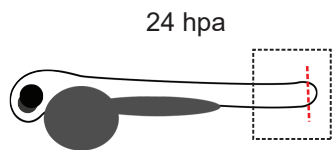


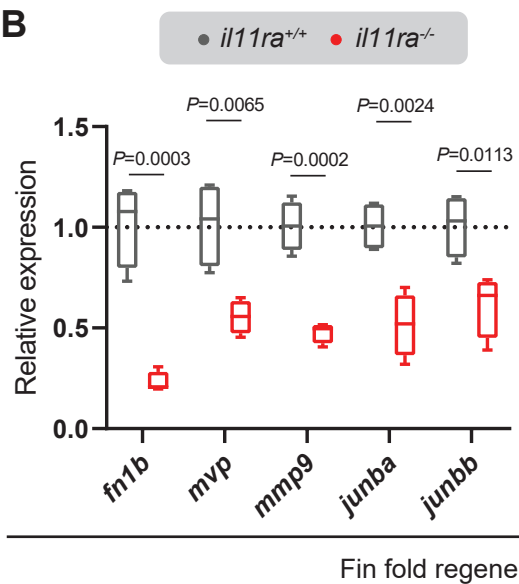
Figure S6. Il-11 signaling is required for reprogramming of regeneration gene expression in the adult caudal fin after amputation.

(A) Expression patterns of selected genes from single-cell RNA-seq (reanalyzed from Hou et al., *Sci Adv* 2020) that are specifically upregulated (*fn1b*, *vmp1*, *palld*, *dlx5a*) and downregulated (*rbp4*, *ptgdsb.2*, *bhmt*) during adult caudal fin regeneration that are dysregulated in *ill1ra* mutants at 24 hpa. (B) Differential expression of zebrafish adult caudal fin regeneration genes in *ill1ra*^{-/-} vs. wild-type sibling adult caudal fin transcriptomic analysis, 24 hpa.

A



B



C

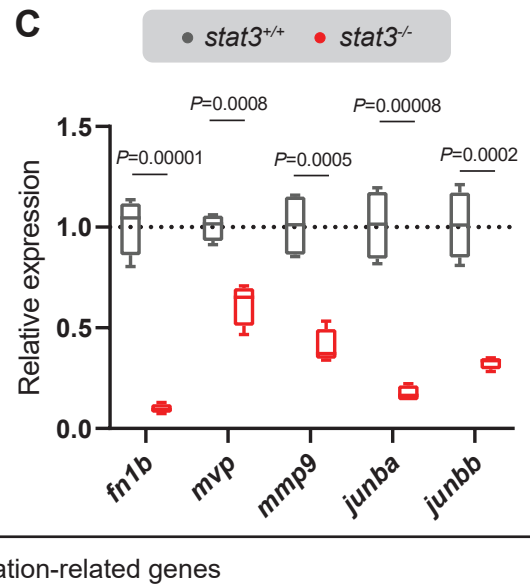


Figure S7. Comparable deficiency in regeneration gene activation between *ill1ra* and *stat3* mutants during larval fin fold regeneration.

(A to C) Schematic (A) and RT-qPCR analysis on *ill1ra*^{bns251} (B, wt siblings, n=4; mut, n=4; 24 hpa) and *stat*^{stl27} (C, wt siblings, n=4; mut, n=4; 24 hpa) for selected fin fold regeneration genes (Yoshinari et al., *Dev Biol* 2009). Box plots (B, C) show median, interquartile range (IQR, box margins) and 5th and 95th percentiles (whiskers). Student's *t*-tests (B, C). n= pools of 20 larval tails (B, C). Black dashed box demarcates dissected tissue processed for RT-qPCR (A); red dashed line demarcates amputation plane (A). Ct values are listed in table S5.

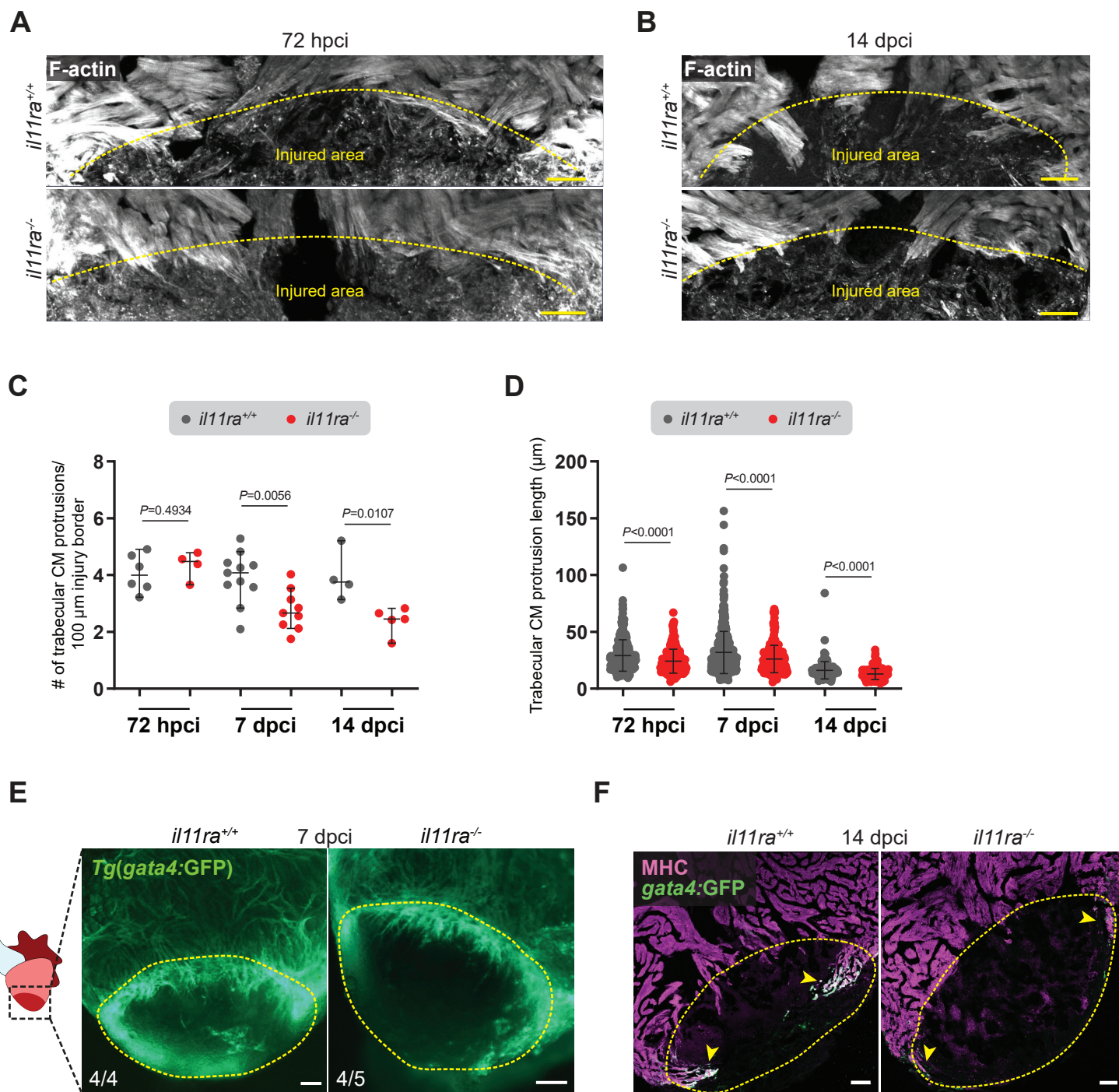
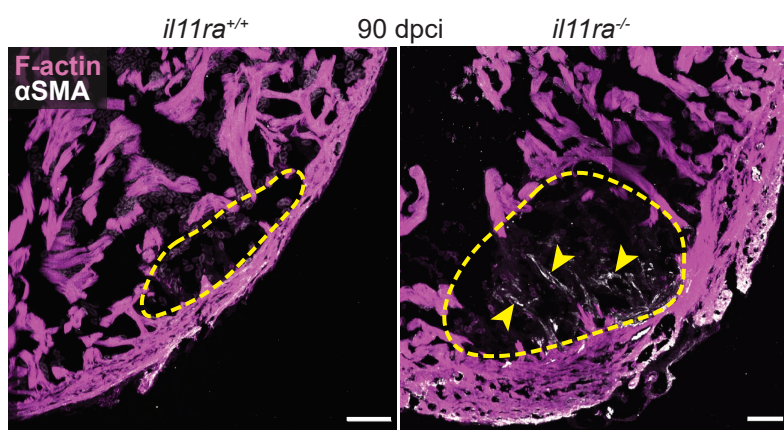


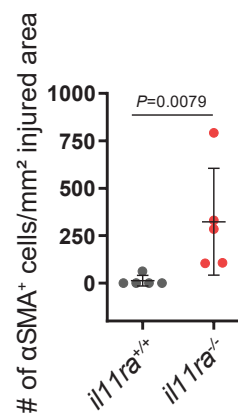
Figure S8. Defects in cardiomyocyte protrusion in *ill1ra* mutants post cardiac cryoinjury.

(A to D) F-actin staining on 50 μm thick cryosections from *ill1ra*^{-/-} vs. wild-type sibling ventricles, 72 hpci (A), 14 dpci (B), and quantification of the number per ventricle (C, 72 hpci, wt, n=6; mut, n=4; 7 dpci, wt siblings, n=11; mut, n=9; 14 dpci, wt siblings, n=4; mut, n=5), and length (D, 72 hpci, wt, n=357; mut, n=239; 7 dpci, wt, n=540; mut, n=281; 14 dpci, wt, n=148; mut, n=141) of CM protrusions. 7 dpci data in panels C and D are taken from Fig. 4, D and E, respectively, for comparison. (E) Wholemout fluorescence images of *Tg(gata4:EGFP)* expression in ventricles (wt siblings, n=4; mut, n=5; 7 dpci). (F) Immunostaining (GFP – green, MHC – magenta) on cryosections from *Tg(gata4:GFP)* ventricles (wt siblings, n=4; mut, n=5; 14 dpci), corresponding to Fig. 4, F and G. Data represent mean \pm S.D. (C) and mean \pm S.E.M. (D). Student's *t*-tests (C); Mann-Whitney *U* tests (D). n= ventricles (C); n= CM protrusions (D). Yellow dashed lines demarcate the injured area (A, B, E, F); arrowheads point to protruding *Tg(gata4:GFP)*⁺ MHC⁺ cortical CMs (F). Scale bars, 50 μm (A, B, F), 100 μm (E).

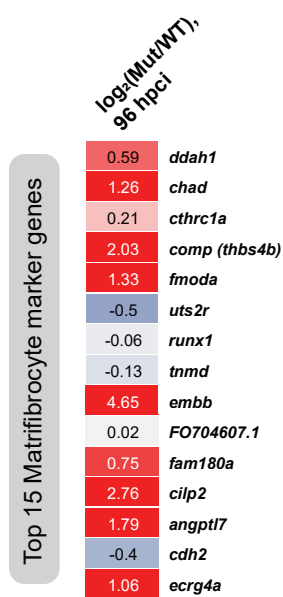
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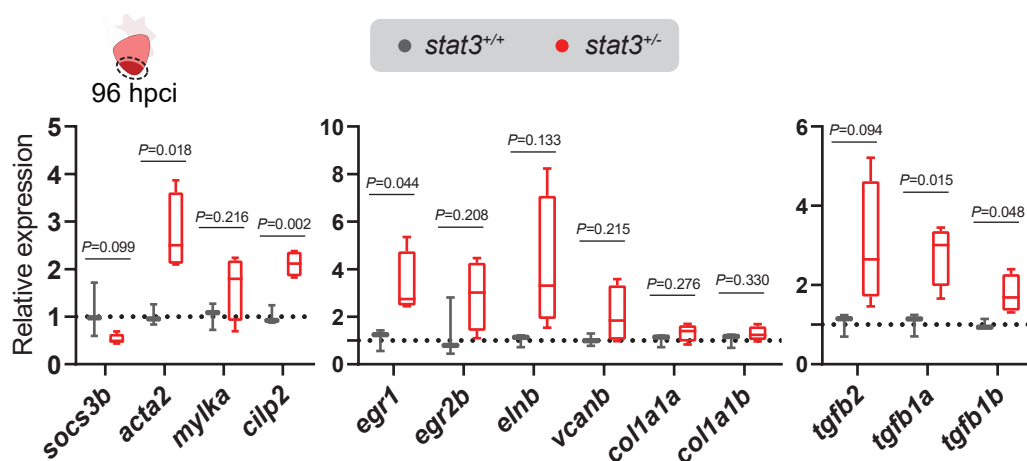
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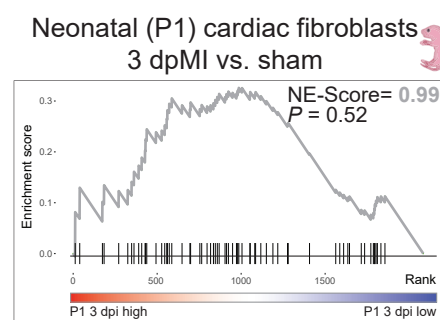
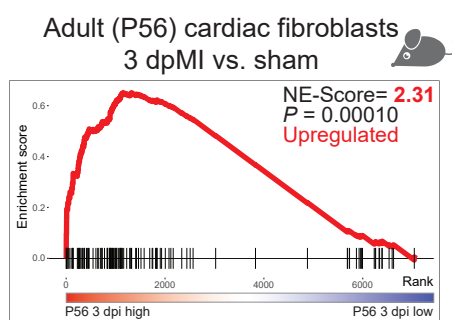
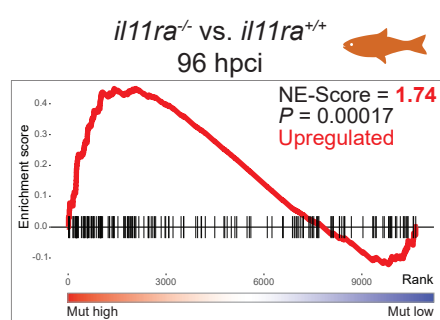


D



E

Epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition



F

Collagen biosynthesis and modifying enzymes

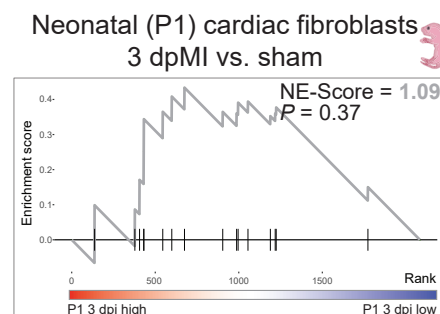
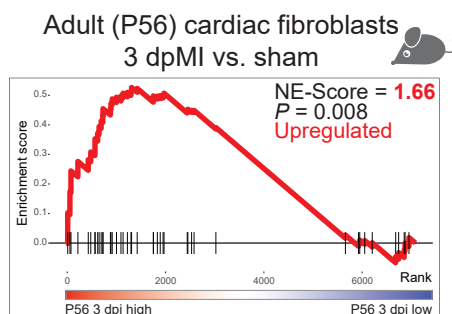
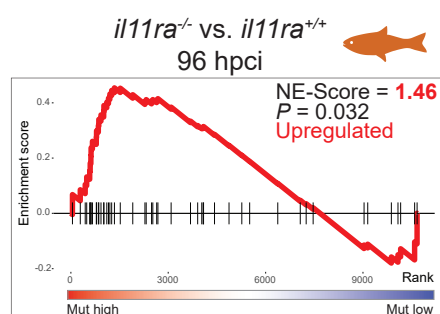
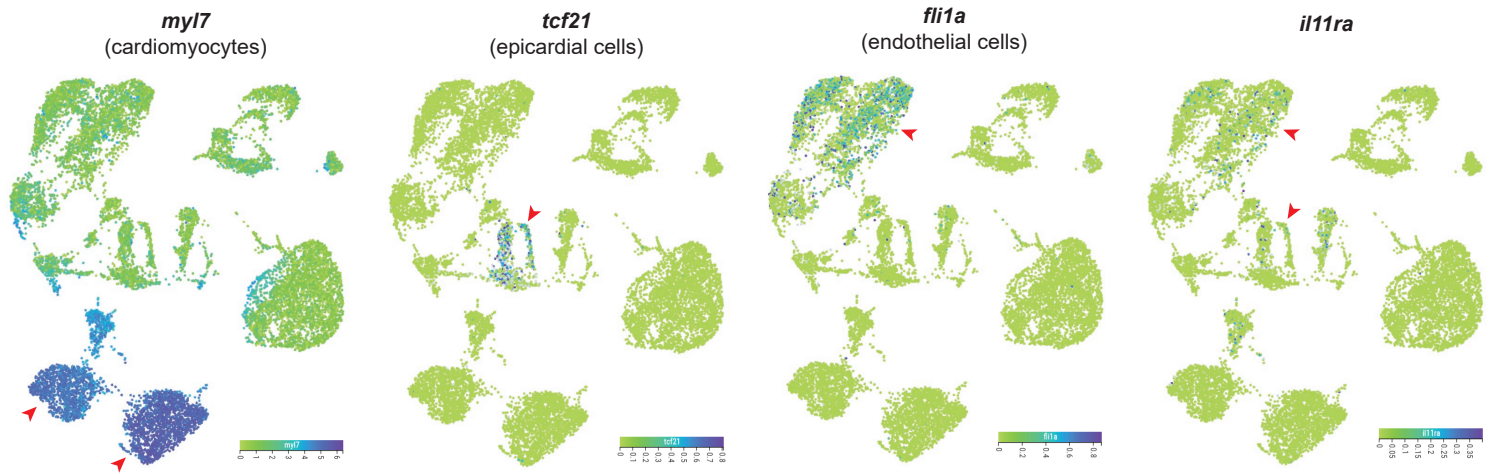


Figure S9. Similarities between non-regenerative *ill1ra* mutants and adult mammalian cardiac fibrosis after cardiac injury.

(A and B) Immunostaining (α SMA – white) and F-actin (magenta) staining on cryosections from ventricles (A, wt siblings, n=5; mut, n=5; 90 dpci) and quantification of α SMA⁺ cells in the scar tissue (B). (C) Expression of top 15 matrifibrocyte genes (reanalyzed from Fu et al., *J Clin Invest* 2018) in *ill1ra*^{-/-} vs. wild-type sibling ventricle transcriptomic profiles, 96 hpci. (D) RT-qPCR analysis on dissected injured areas of heterozygous *stat3*^{sl27} (n=4) vs. wild-type sibling (n=3) ventricles for selected fibrosis-associated genes, 96 hpci. (E and F) GSE analysis plots comparing fibrosis-associated ontology terms between *ill1ra*^{-/-} vs. wild-type sibling ventricle transcriptomic profiles (96 hpci) and myocardial infarction (MI) vs. sham from adult (P56) and neonatal (P1) cardiac fibroblast transcriptomic profiles, 3 days post MI (dpMI) (reanalyzed from Quaife-Ryan et al., *Circulation* 2017). Data represent mean \pm S.D. (B) and box plots (D) show median, interquartile range (IQR, box margins) and 5th and 95th percentiles (whiskers). Student's *t*-tests (D); Mann-Whitney *U* test (B). n= ventricles (A, D). Yellow dashed lines demarcate the injured area (A); arrowheads point at α SMA⁺ cells in the injured area (A). Ct values are listed in table S5. Scale bars, 50 μ m (A).

A

Uninjured adult zebrafish heart
(Reanalyzed from Spanjaard et al. *Nat Biotech*, 2018)



B

Adult caudal fin regeneration time course
(Reanalyzed from Hou et al. *Science Advances*, 2020)

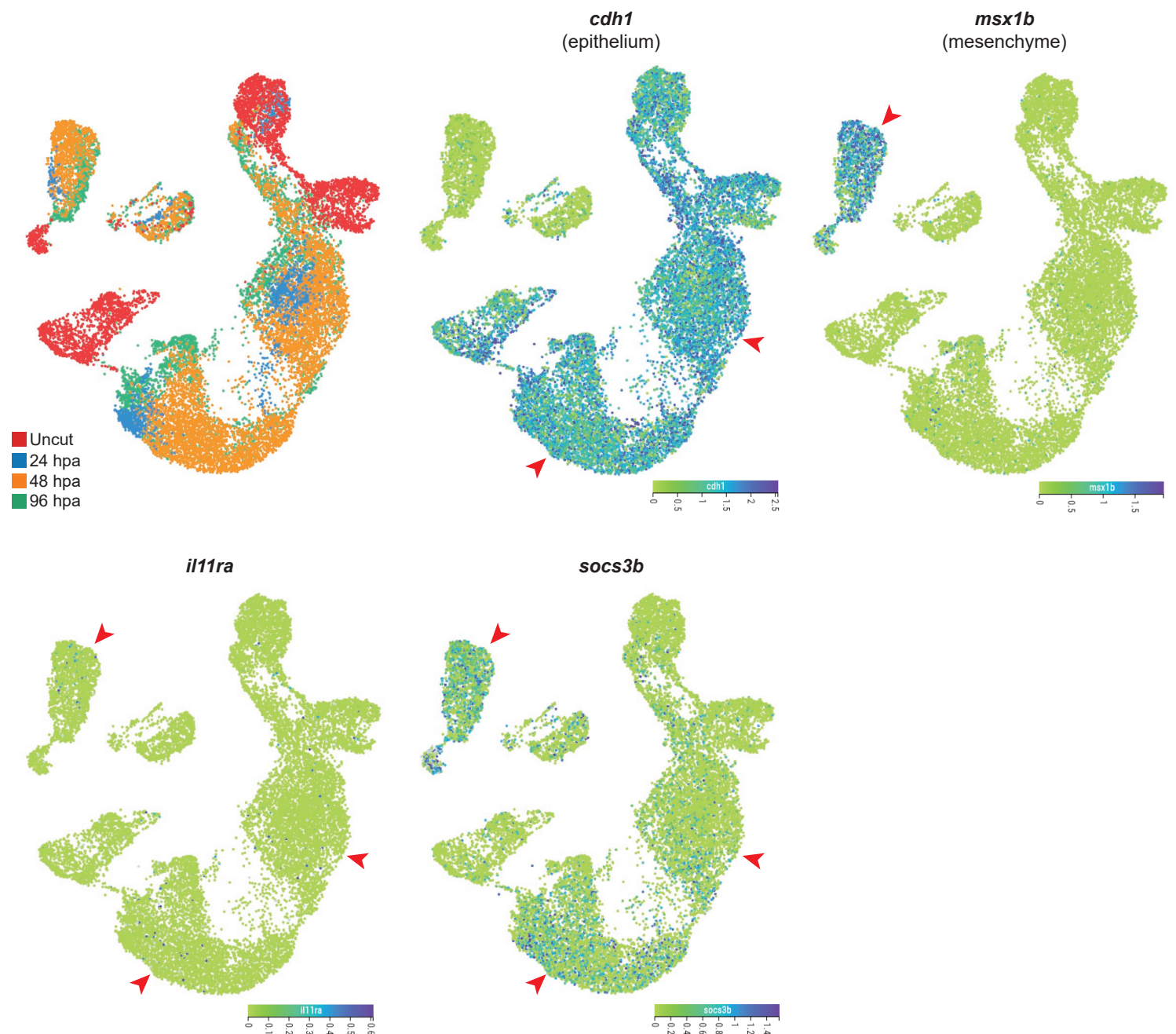


Figure S10. IL-11/Stat3 pathway gene expression patterns at the single-cell level in the uninjured heart and during caudal fin regeneration in adult zebrafish.

(A) Expression patterns of selected cell population marker genes and *ill1ra* in single-cell RNA-seq data from uninjured adult zebrafish hearts (reanalyzed from Spanjaard et al., *Nat Biotech* 2018). (B) Expression patterns of selected cell population marker genes, *ill1ra*, and *socs3b* in single-cell RNA-seq data from regenerating adult zebrafish caudal fins (reanalyzed from Hou et al., *Sci Adv* 2020). Red arrowheads point to respective cell clusters (A, B).

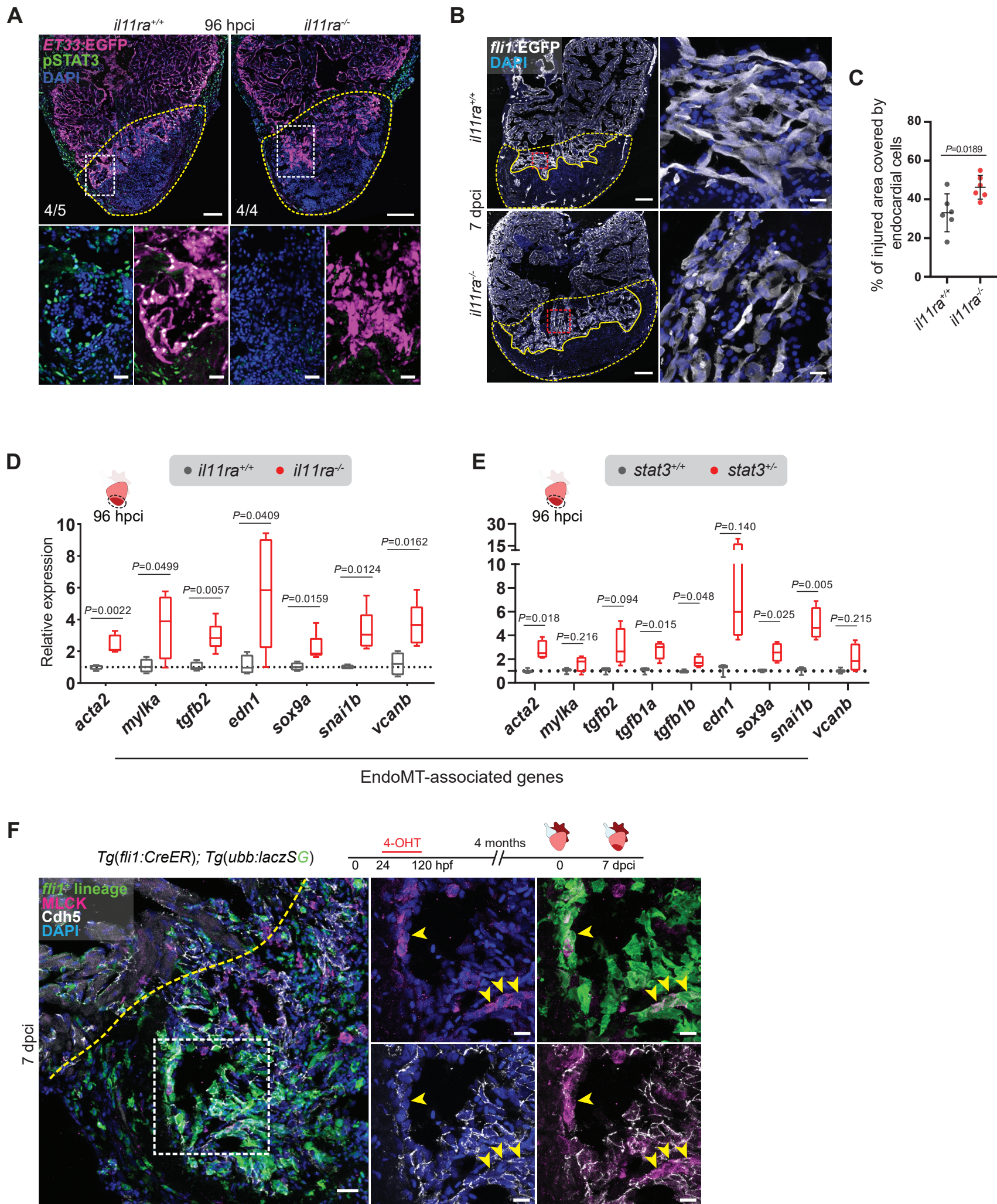
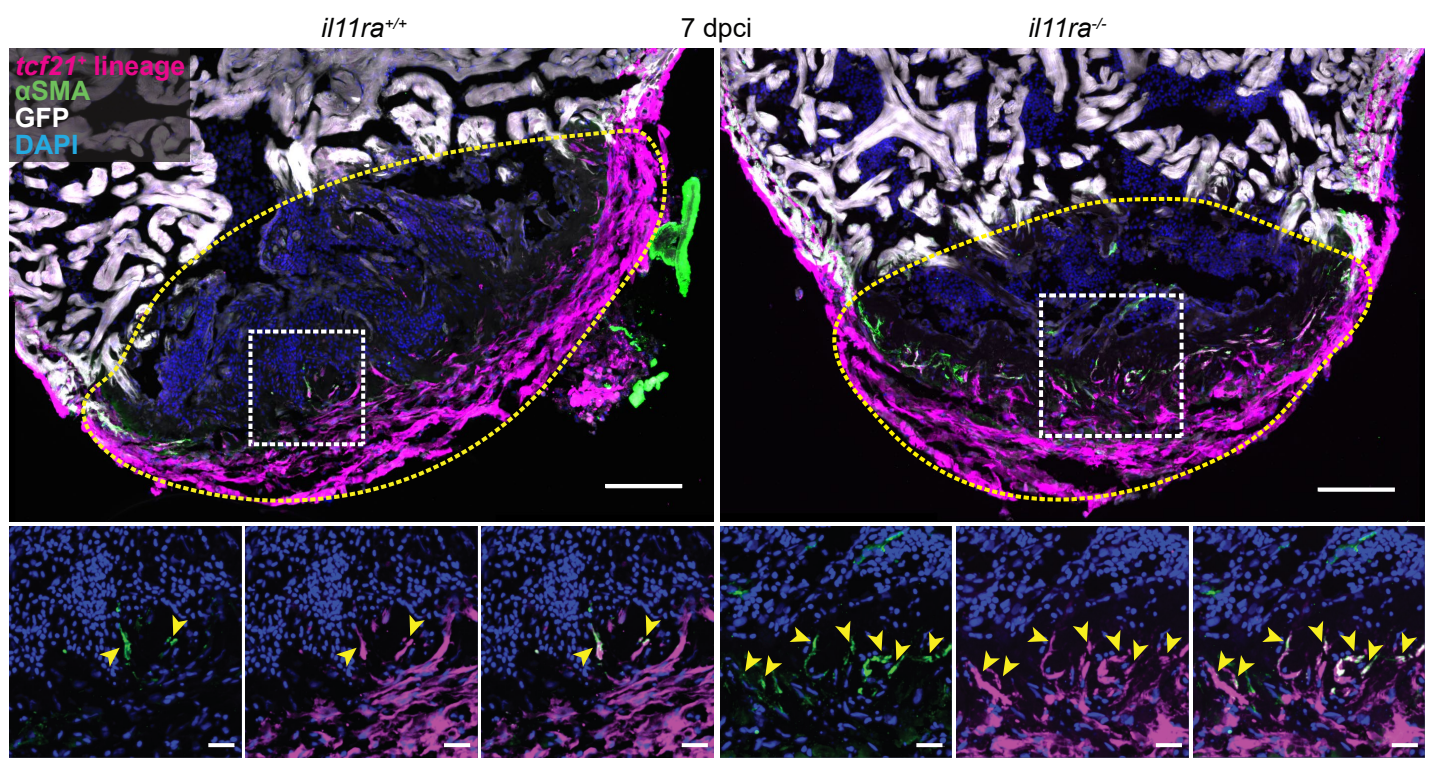
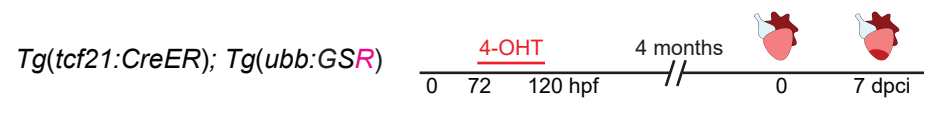


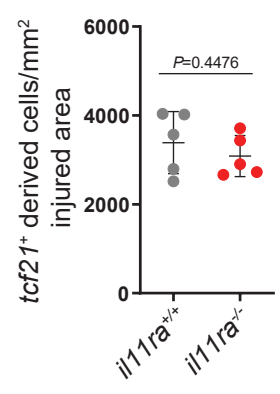
Figure S11. Canonical Il-11/Stat3 signaling antagonizes endothelial-to-mesenchymal transition.

(A) Immunostaining (GFP – magenta, pStat3 Y705 – green) on cryosections from *Tg(ET33:GFP) ill1ra^{-/-}* (n=4) vs. wild-type (n=5) siblings, 96 hpci. (B) Immunostaining (GFP – white) on ventricle cryosections from *Tg(fli1:EGFP) ill1ra^{-/-}* vs. wild-type siblings, 7 dpci. (C) Quantification of percentage of injured area covered by *Tg(fli1:EGFP)⁺* endocardial cells (wt siblings, n=6; mut, n=6) from 50 μ m thick ventricle cryosections, 7 dpci. (D and E) RT-qPCR analysis on dissected injured areas of mutant *ill1ra^{bns251}* (D, n=5) or heterozygous *stat3^{stl27}* (E, n=4) vs. wild-type siblings (n=4 and 3, respectively) ventricles, 96 hpci, for EndoMT-associated gene expression levels. *acta2*, *mylka*, *tgfb2* and *vcanb* mRNA levels in panel D are taken from Fig. 5E for comparison. (F) Experimental design and confocal images of immunostaining (GFP – green, Cdh5 – white, and Myosin light chain kinase, MLCK – magenta) on cryosections from *Tg(fli1:CreER); Tg(ubb:lacZSG) ill1ra^{-/-}* ventricle, 7 dpci. Data represent mean \pm S.D. (C) and box plots (D, E) show median, interquartile range (IQR, box margins) and 5th and 95th percentiles (whiskers). Student's *t*-tests (C, D, E). n= ventricles (A, C, D, E). Yellow dashed lines demarcate the injured area (A, B, F); yellow lines demarcate endocardial invasion in the injured area (B); yellow arrowheads point to *fli1⁺* derived MLCK⁺ cells (F). Ct values are listed in table S5. Scale bars, 100 μ m (A, B), 20 μ m (A insets, F), 10 μ m (B insets, F insets).

A



B



C

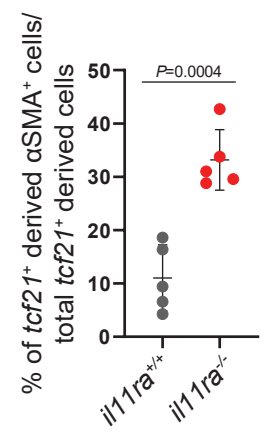


Figure S12. Il-11 signaling limits epicardial-derived myofibroblast differentiation after cardiac cryoinjury.

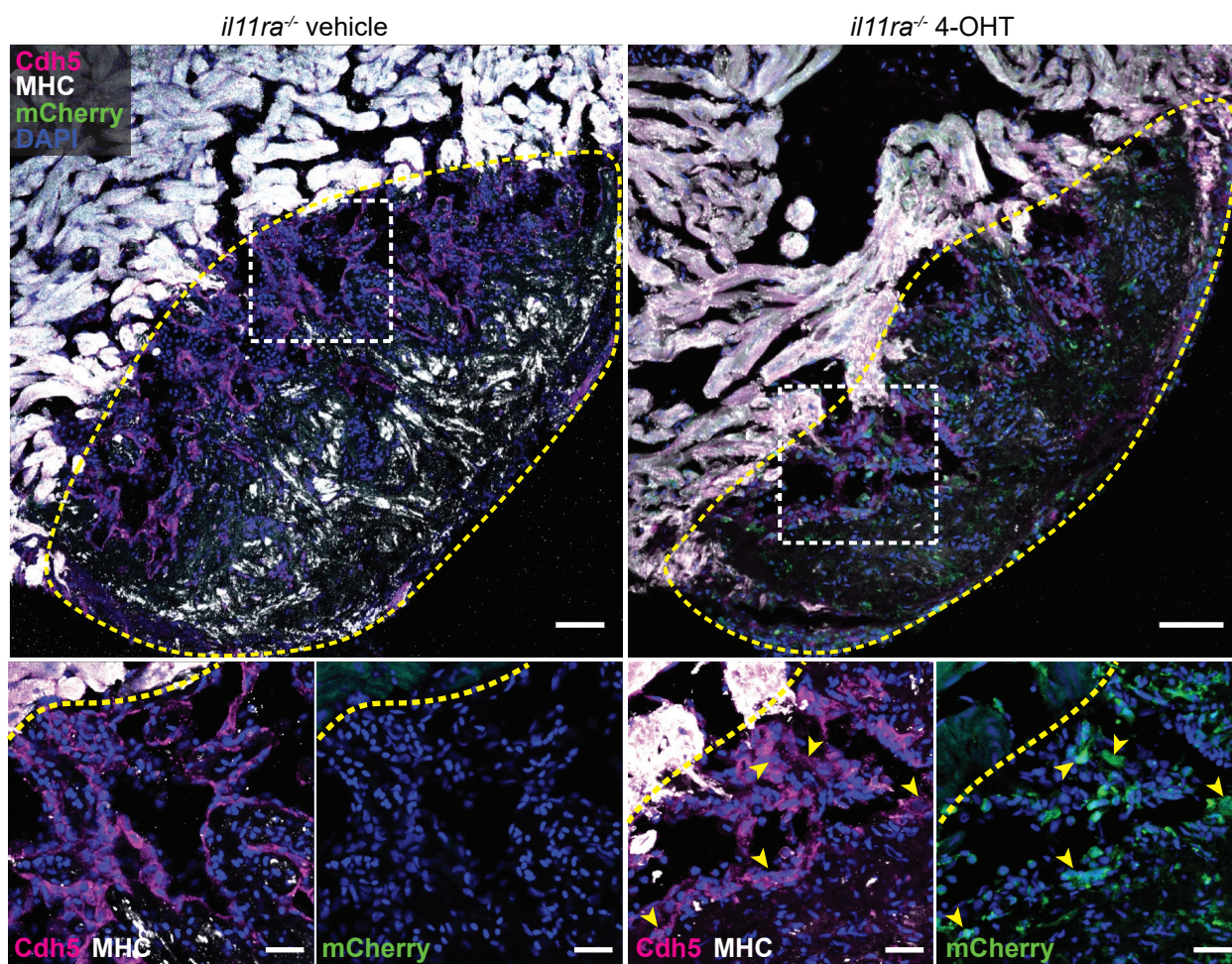
(A) Experimental design and confocal images of immunostaining (mCherry – magenta, α SMA – green) on cryosections from *Tg(tcf21:CreER); Tg(ubb:GSR)* ventricles (wt siblings, n=5; mut, n=5; 7 dpci). (B and C) Quantification of density of *tcf21*⁺ derived cells in the injured area (B) and percentage of *tcf21*⁺ derived α SMA⁺ cells in the injured area (C). Data represent mean \pm S.D. (B, C). Student's *t*-tests (B, C). n= ventricles (A). Yellow dashed lines demarcate the injured area (A); yellow arrowheads point to *tcf21*⁺ derived α SMA⁺ cells (A insets). Scale bars, 100 μ m (A), 20 μ m (A insets).

A

Tg(fli1:CreER);
Tg(hsp70l:LBL-il11ra-p2a-mCh)

4-OHT 8 months 4-OHT 1 hr 37°C

0 48 120 hpf // -4 -3 -2 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 dpci

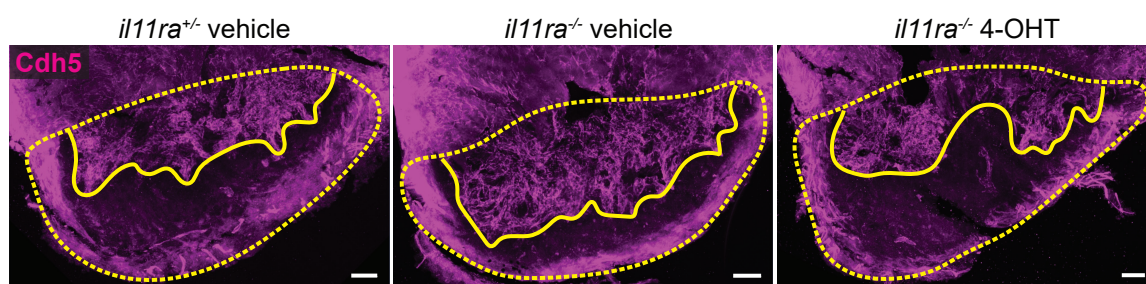


B

Tg(fli1:CreER);
Tg(hsp70l:LBL-il11ra-p2a-mCh)

4-OHT 8 months 4-OHT 1 hr 37°C

0 48 120 hpf // -4 -3 -2 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 dpci



C

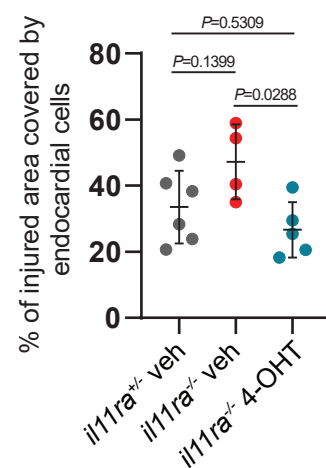


Figure S13. IL-11 signaling in endothelial cells regulates endocardial cell invasion of the injured area after cardiac cryoinjury.

(A) Experimental design and confocal images of immunostaining (Cdh5 – magenta, MHC – white, and mCherry – green) on cryosections from vehicle or 4-OHT treated *ill1ra*^{-/-} *Tg(fli1:CreER); Tg(hsp70l:LBL-ill1ra-p2a-mCh)* sibling ventricles at 7 dpci. (B) Experimental design and confocal images of immunostaining for Cdh5 expression on 50 μm thick cryosections from vehicle treated *ill1ra*^{+/-} siblings, and vehicle or 4-OHT treated *ill1ra*^{-/-} *Tg(fli1:CreER); Tg(hsp70l:LBL-ill1ra-p2a-mCh)* ventricles at 7 dpci. (C) Quantification of percentage of the injured area covered by Cdh5⁺ endocardial cells (*ill1ra*^{+/-} veh, n=6; *ill1ra*^{-/-} veh, n=4; *ill1ra*^{-/-} 4-OHT, n=5; 7 dpci). Data represent mean ± S.D. (C). One-way ANOVA (C). n= ventricles (C). Yellow dashed lines demarcate the injured area (A, B); yellow lines demarcate the endocardial invasion in the injured area (B). Scale bars, 50 μm (A, B), 20 μm (A insets).

Supplementary Tables

Table S1. Moderate physical exercise vs. cardiac cryoinjury - co-regulated genes in zebrafish ventricles.

Table S2. Canonical pathway and upstream regulator prediction analyses on moderate physical exercise vs. cardiac cryoinjury co-regulated genes.

Table S3. Evolutionarily conserved adult caudal fin regeneration gene expression in *ill1ra* mutants vs. wild types at 24 hpa.

Table S4. Gene set enrichment analyses on *ill1ra* mutant vs. wild-type ventricles, adult and neonatal mouse cardiac fibroblasts post cardiac injury.

Table S5. Primer sequences and Ct values.

Table S6. Proteins used for phylogenetic analysis.

IL-6 family receptors:

Protein	Encoding transcript ID	Length
hCNTFR	ENST00000351266.8	372 aa
hIL6R	ENST00000368485.8	486 aa

hIL11RA	ENST00000441545.7	422 aa
hLIFR	ENST00000263409.8	1097 aa
hOSMR	ENST00000274276.8	979 aa
zll1ra	ENSDART00000030976.7	402 aa
mIL11RA1	ENSMUST00000098132.10	432 aa
mIL11RA2	ENSMUST00000179253.1	432 aa

IL-6 family cytokines:

Protein	Encoding transcript ID	Length
hCNTF	ENST00000361987.6	200 aa
hIL6	ENST00000404625.5	212 aa
hIL11	ENST00000264563.7	199 aa
hLIF	ENST00000249075.4	202 aa
hOSM	ENST00000215781.3	252 aa
zll1a	XM 693882.9	219 aa
zll1b	ENSDART00000081440.4	192 aa
mIL11	ENSMUST00000094892.11	199 aa