

## Supplemental Data

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### **Hidden cell diversity in Placozoa: Ultrastructural Insights from *Hoilungia hongkongensis***

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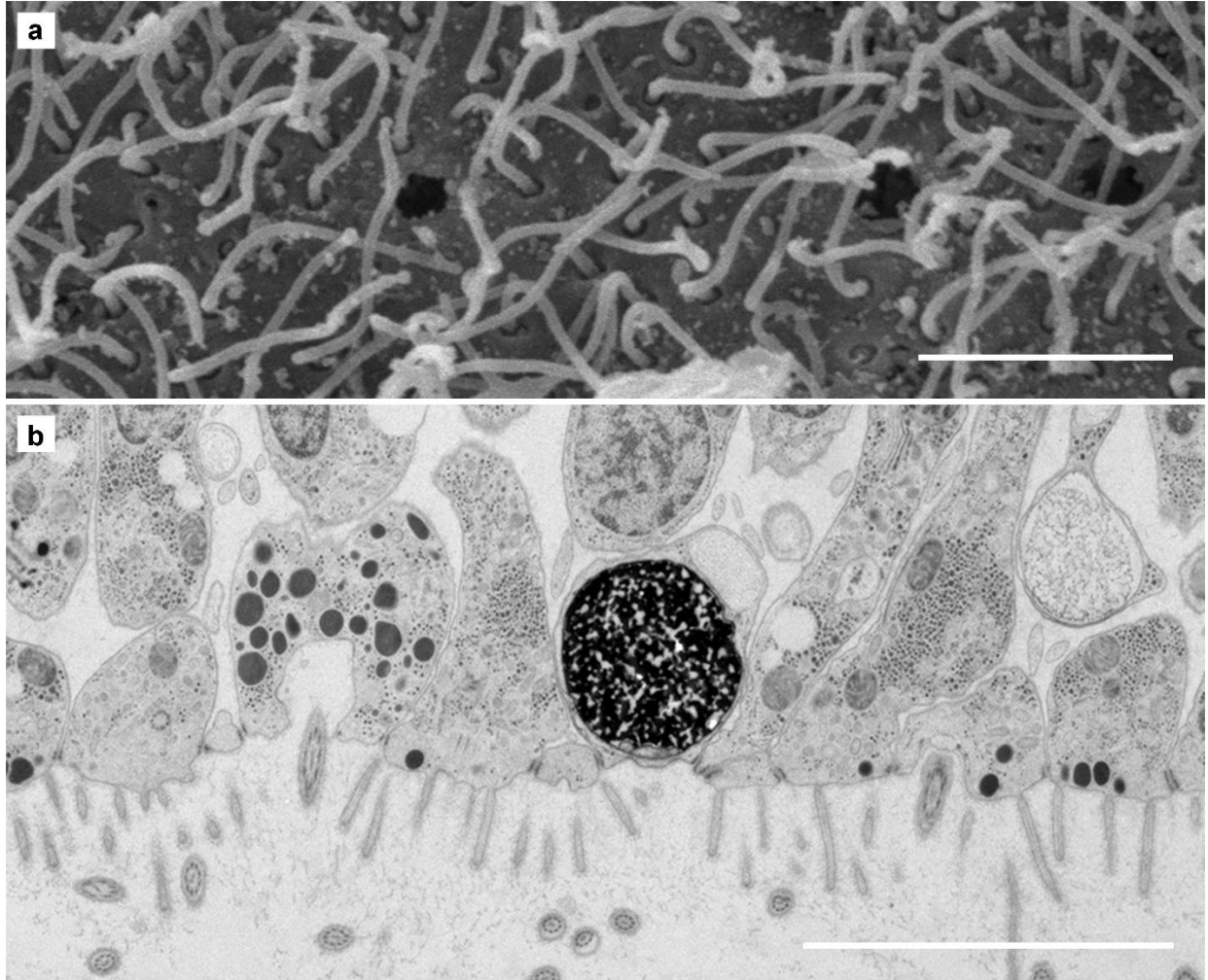
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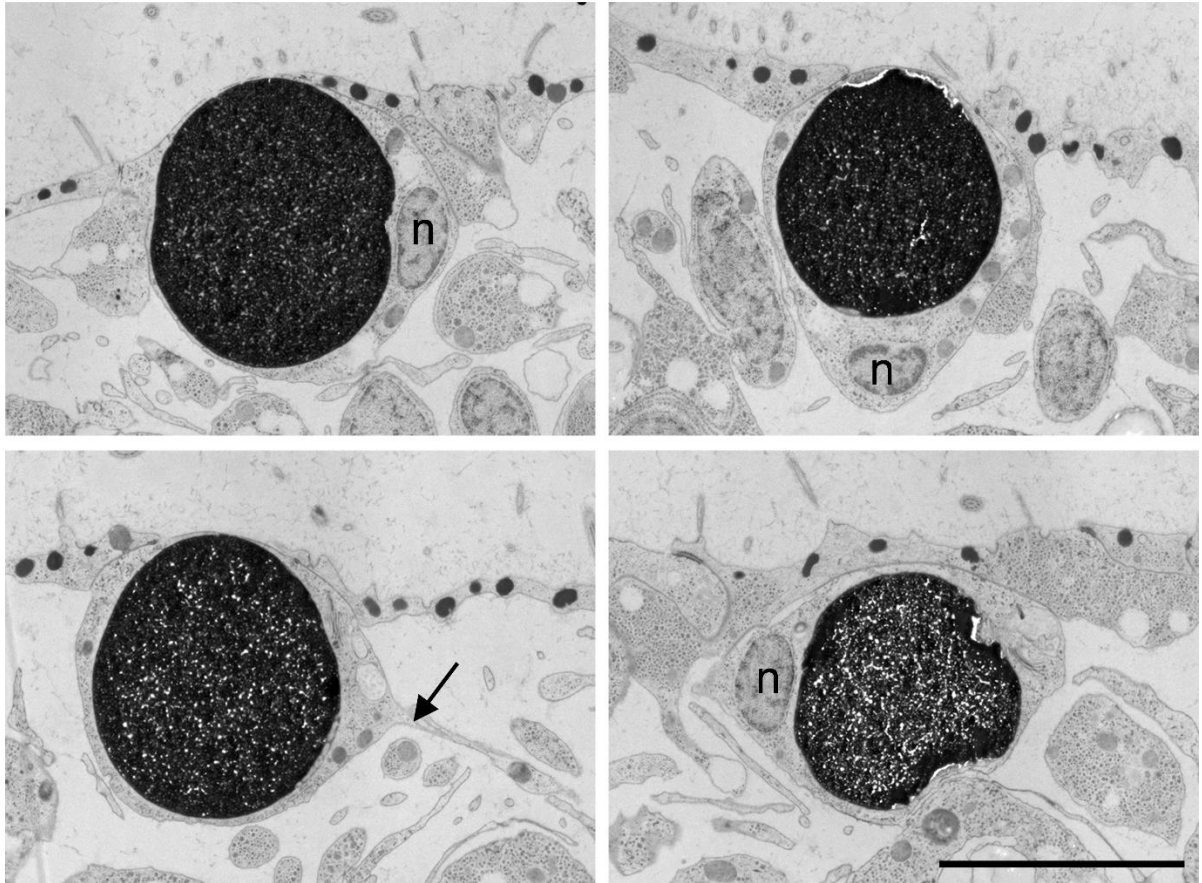
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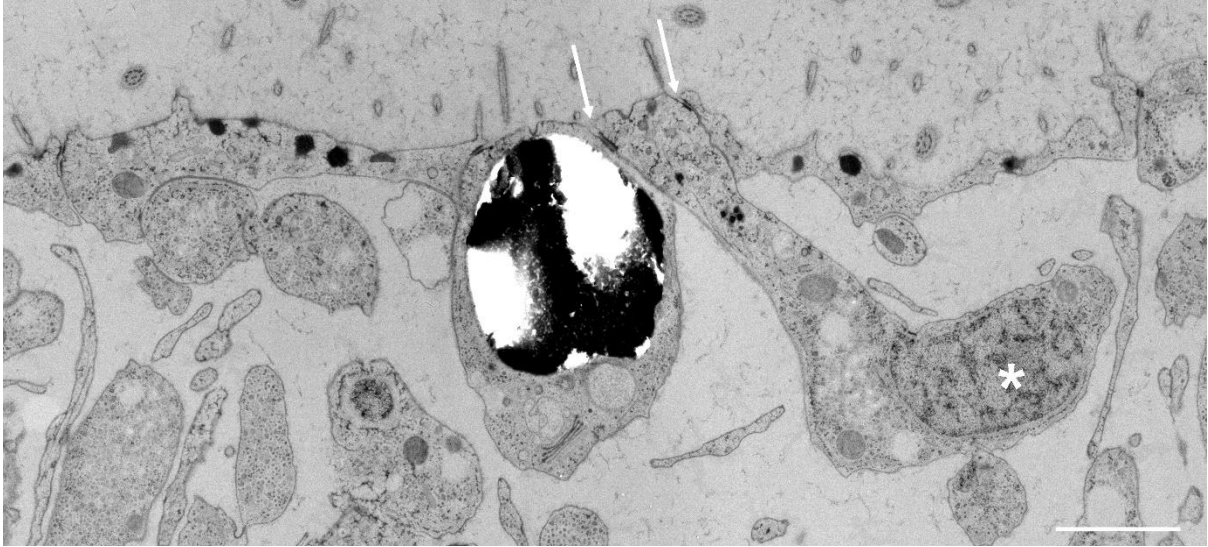
Supplemental Figures



**Supplemental Figure 1: Pores in the ventral epithelium.** (a) At the SEM, pores are often seen between ciliated cells. (b) At the TEM, the outermost large granule of a lipophil cell abuts the epithelial surface, forming a recess between two epithelial cells. Its size is comparable to this of pores observed in (a). Scale bar: 5  $\mu\text{m}$ .



**Supplemental Figure 2: Sphere cells in the dorsal epithelium.** The large vacuoles (“shiny spheres”) contained in sphere cells often reach the very surface of the epithelium (likely to be released), conferring it a locally convex shape. Sphere cells contain a single large vacuole, a small and slightly flattened nucleus (n) located in their periphery (likely due to the steric bulk of the vacuole) and thin processes (arrow). Scale bar: 5  $\mu$ m.



**Supplemental Figure 3: Cells of the dorsal epithelium.** A cell with a narrow neck (asterisk) is observed here between a sphere cell and a dorsal epithelial cell. Its surface coverage (between arrows) is very limited as compared to this of regular dorsal epithelial cells. Scale bar: 2  $\mu\text{m}$ .