SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

Single-cell Transcriptome Analysis Reveals Embryonic Endothelial Heterogeneity at

Spatial-Temporal Level and Multi-functions of MicroRNA-126 in Mice

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Expanded Materials & Methods

Generation of miR-126-ecKO mice and animal work

All animal experiments were performed in accordance with the institutional guidelines of Shanghai Institutes for Biological Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences. For Tie2cre-miR126^{Flox} targeting construct, the first loxP was inserted into host gene Egfl7 intron 7-5' end, and the second loxP together with neomycin-resistant gene flanked by FRT sites was inserted into intron 7-3' end. Genetic transmission was confirmed by backcrossing the chimera with C57BL/6J mice and the Neo-cassette was removed using FLPeR mice. The floxed mice used in this study were maintained in C57BL/6J with at least four backcrosses. The Tie2-cre mice were obtained from Shanghai Model Organism. Briefly, the Tie2-Cre transgene was excised from the plasmid vector backbone. Microinjection into fertilized C57BL/6J x SJLF1 oocytes and other surgical procedures were performed as described⁸². We used male mice because this simplified the breeding strategy (as miR-126 is located on the X chromosome) and also to minimize estrogen-dependent fluctuations in response to angiogenesis and glucose metabolism^{26, 27}. For the genotyping of Tie2-miR126 knockout allele, the primers used were forward primer (ATTTGCCTGCATTACCGGTC), and the reverse primer (ATCAACGTTTTCTTTTCGG).

Single cell suspension preparation

E14.5 mouse embryos were cut into pieces with very sharp knives, followed by dissociating in collagenase I solution(2mg/ml) for 45 minutes at 37°C. Before FACS, the Blood cells were depleted by Red Blood cells lysis buffer (BD Pharmingen). Cells were then labeled with PE rat anti-mouse CD31 (MEC 13.3, BD Pharmingen, 1:50), PE-cy7 rat anti-mouse CD144 (55-7H1, BD Pharmingen, 1:50), FITC rat anti-mouse CD45(30-F11, BD Pharmingen, 1:50) and CD31⁺CD144⁺CD45⁻ cells were sorted through a MoFlo FACS machine (MoFlo Astrios EQ, Beckman Coulter) directly into PBS containing 0.04% BSA.

Single-cell RNA-seq library preparation and sequencing

The single-cell RNA library was built via 10x Chromium platform, and 10000 counted FACSenriched cells were loaded per channel approximately 81 . The miR-126-ecKO and Littermate control sample were loaded together with one chip. The libraries were built via the Chromium platform and Chromium Single Cell 3' v2 chemistry. Finally, the libraries were loaded on an illumine Hiseq 2500 Rapid flowcell with a PE150 sequencing strategy. At last, 70553 reads per cell and 56566 reads per cell were obtained from miR-126-ecKO and Littermate control ECs.

Single-cell RNA-seq data analysis

After aggregation of the sequencing data from miR-126-ecKO and Littermate control E14.5 embryos, R package Seurat 3.0 was used for cell filter, data normalization, variable gene selection, unsupervised clustering, and uniform manifold approximation and projection (UMAP) according to their recommended steps⁸⁰. Briefly, Seurat objects were created from the aggregated library as matrix containing gene-by-cell expression data. Cells with less than 200 genes expression or a

percentage of more than 0.05 mitochondrial genes were filtered out. Then data were lognormalized and scaled for subsequent analysis. Variable genes were found and used for principal component analysis (PCA), which was performed for dimension reduction. ElbowPlot function was used for the determination of the numbers of principal components, followed by unsupervised clustering and UMAP. FindAllMarkers function was used to identify the genes exclusively expressed in each cluster. Visualization of total profiles of each cluster was generated with Seurat function DimPlot. Visualization of gene expression with feature plot, dot plot, and heatmap was generated with Seurat function FeaturePlot, DotPlot and DoHeatmap, respectively. Differentially expressed genes (P<0.01) between 2 identities were found with FindMarkers function. GO biological function analysis was performed with marker genes of each cluster found by FindMarkers function with average adjusted p<0.05 on toppgene website (https://toppgene.cchmc.org/) and then plotted with R package Goplot.

Immunofluorescence of whole-mount embryonic dorsal skin

E14.5 mouse embryos were fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde overnight at 4° C. Then the embryos were put into pre-cold methanol at -20 °C for at least 1hours. Embryos' dorsal skin tissues were dissected carefully with forceps, leaving the superficial vessel and lymphatic network layer within the dorsal skin intact. Samples were blocked in 10% heat inactivated donkey serum in PBS containing 0.2% Triton X-100 for 2 hours at room temperature. Samples were then incubated in blocking buffer containing primary antibodies overnight at 4°C, followed by Alexa-488 (Invitrogen) 1:500 2hours at room temperature for immunofluorescence detection. Whole-mount samples were mounted on glass slides before analyzed with a confocal microscope. The IF antibody against mouse were as follows: PECAM1(553370, BD). Secondary antibodies were Alexa Fluor 488 and 555 obtained from Molecular Probes, Inc. (Invitrogen).

Immunofluorescence of P7 pups' retina

The P7 nuts' retina were harvested by forceps⁸³. Then, immediately put into methanol and rehydrated by 50% methanol. Finally, incubated with primary antibody overnight at 4°C, Appropriate Alexa 488 (Invitrogen), Cy5 (Jackson) conjugated secondary antibodies were used for staining for 2 hours at room temperature and analyzed with a confocal microscope (Car Zeiss 710).

Masson Staining (identify fibrosis in tissue sections)

Masson staining were carried out with a commercial kit (Solarbio, catalog: G1346). And the tissues were processed by 4% Paraformaldehyde fixation which was followed by Paraffin embedding and sectioning.

Alizarin Red S Staining (identify calcium in tissue sections)

The Alizarin Red S Staining was performed according to the kit (Solarbio, catalog: G3280), briefly, Washing the De-paraffinize slides to distilled water and Staining slides with the Alizarin Red Solution for 30 seconds to 5 minutes, then, observing the reaction microscopically, finally, Shaking off excess dye and blot sections. Dehydrating in acetone, 20 dips. Then in Acetone-Xylene (1:1)

solution, 20 dips. Clearing in xylene and mount in a synthetic mounting medium.

Intraperitoneal Pyruvate Tolerance Test (IPTT)

After 14 hours fasting, IPGTT were conducted by intraperitoneal injection of 2.5 g/kg of pyruvate and blood glucose levels were measured by a glucometer at 0, 15, 30, 30, 60, 90, 120 minutes after glucose administration. At least 6 miR126 KO and WT adult mice were used at one performance, and each time point was measured three times.

Intraperitoneal Glucose Tolerance Test (IGTT)

After 14 hours fasting, IPGTT were conducted by intraperitoneal injection of 1.5 g/kg of glucose and blood glucose levels were measured by a glucometer at 0, 15, 30, 30, 60, 90, 120 minutes after glucose administration. At least 6 miR126 KO and WT adult mice were used at one performance, and each time point was measured three times.

Adult hepatic endothelial cells separation and enrichment.

The adult hepatic endothelial cells were separated by collagenase perfusion and followed by Percoll-gradient separation. Briefly, after the mice were anesthetized by intraperitoneal injection of sodium pentobarbital, they were fixed on the operating plate, the liver was perfused through the inferior vena cava, and the in-situ digestion was performed. Firstly, transfer the digestion solution to a clean 50mL centrifuge tube and put it in a 37℃ constant temperature water bath for digestion for 10-15 minutes. Secondly, digested tissues were centrifuge at 100g for 5 minutes, and the supernatant is collected. Thirdly, Centrifuge the collected supernatants at 400g for 10 minutes and discard the supernatants. Finally, the precipitate was resuspended in 25% Percoll solution, mixed thoroughly, and carefully added to the surface of the 50% Percoll solution to form an obvious interface. Then, centrifuge at 900g for 20 minutes without brake. Collect the turbidity zone, which were mainly occupied with Hepatic ECs, between 25% and 50% Percoll, and dilute it with RPMI-1640 10 times, centrifuge at 2000r/min for 10 minutes, and discard the supernatant. Take 2ml of ECM and resuspend the pellet, spread it into a 6-well plate treated with 0.1% gelatin, and make up to 3ml. Next day, the adherent endothelial cells were collected and were used with following experiments such as Western Blotting and quantitative PCR.

In vivo **administration of miR-126-3p agomir**

To investigate the effects of miR-126 on blood glucose metabolism, the chemically modified agomir were used to increase miRNA expression in vivo. The miRNA agomir is a chemically modified stable miRNA mimic, and it's *in vivo* delivery resulted in target silencing was similar to the effects induced by the overexpression of endogenous miRNA. The miR-126-3p agomir was synthesized by RiboBio (Guangzhou, China). Scrambled mimics that did not target any miRNA were injected as a NC. The mice received either agomir or their NCs (200 μl) via tail vein injection (100nM/kg body weight, n=6 per group) for three consecutive days. Then the Intraperitoneal Glucose Tolerance Test (IGTT) were carried out 7 days after the third tail vein injection.

Microscopy

Specimens were mounted with fluorescence mounting medium (Dako, Glostrup, Denmark) or Mowiol mounting medium, and confocal images (e.g., cells and sections) were generally captured using a Zeiss LSM-710 Falcon with 20X and 40X oil objectives. Images were processed with Car Zeiss software.

Statistical analysis

For experimental studies, all quantitative data were evaluated whether they followed the normal distribution by the Shapiro-Wilk test and equal variance by F-test. For data passed both tests, data are expressed as means ± SEM, Student's t-test was used for the comparison between 2 groups, and for comparison among multiple groups, the data were analyzed by one-way ANOVA with Tukey's post hoc test. For the data that were not normally distributed, nonparametric test (Mann-Whitney U test) was performed and presented as median ± SD. All P values are 2-sided, and P<0.05 was considered a statistically significant difference.

Supplemental Figures and legends

Figure S1

Supplemental Figure S1. Integration of eECs and aECs extracted from published dataset E-MTAB-8077 indicated the tissue sources of eECs.

A, aECs were extracted from published single-cell dataset E-MTAB-8077 and filtered by UMI number (Pecam1>0, Cdh5>0, Ptprc=0, Alas2<15). **B,** Uniform Manifold Approximation and Projection (UMAP) was performed to integrated aECs by Seurat. Colors denote different tissues. **C,** eECs and aECs extracted from E-MTAB-8077 were aggregated. Colors denote different clusters or tissues. **D,** eECs and aECs with the same sources were highlighted and the aECs were acted as anchors. eECs: embryonic endothelial cells; aECs: adult endothelial cells.

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8

Supplemental Figure S2. Integration of eECs and aECs extracted from published dataset GSE109774 verified the eECs clustering.

A, ECs with different sequencing strategies (10X genomics and Droplet) were extracted from published single-cell dataset GSE109774 by UMI (Pecam1>0, Cdh5>0, Ptprc=0, Alas2<15). **B,** Uniform Manifold Approximation and Projection (UMAP) was performed to integrated aECs by Seurat. Colors denote different tissues with different sequencing methods. **C,** eECs and aECs extracted from GSE109774 were aggregated. Colors denote different clusters or tissues. **D,** eECs and aECs with the same sources were highlighted and the aECs were acted as anchors. eECs: embryonic endothelial cells; aECs: adult endothelial cells.

Supplemental Figure S3. The vascular bed heterogeneity still existed within eECs tissues, related to figure 3.

A, Heat map of the top 10 enriched genes in each subcluster of cardiac ECs and expression profiles of of marker genes in cycling cells (Mki67, Top2a, Cdk1), endocardium cells (Npr3, Cpe, Eln), arterial ECs (Glul, Hey1) and venous ECs (Aplnr, Cldn5). **B,** Heat map of the top 10 enriched genes in each subcluster of cerebral ECs and expression profiles of marker genes in in atrial ECs (Vwf, Eln, Fbln5, Sema3g, Vegfc, Bmx, Hey1, Tgfb2, Ly6c1), capillary ECs (Tfrc, Car4, Slc16a1), venous ECs (Lcn2, Nr2f2, Slc38a5), and proliferation (Ccna2, Top2a, Ccnb1). **C,** Heat map of the top 10 enriched genes in each subcluster of pulmonary ECs and expression profiles of of enriched genes in large vessel ECs (Vwf, Nr2f2), embryonic pulmonary ECs (Rgcc, Igfbp5, Hspg2, Igfbp7, Car4) and proliferating ECs (Mki67, Top2a, Cdk1). **D,** Heat map of the top 10 enriched genes in each subcluster of hepatic ECs and expression profiles of of marker genes in arterial ECs (Vwf,Eln), capillary ECs (Cldn5, Bmp2), venous ECs (Rspo3), proliferating ECs (Mki67, Top2a, Cdk1) and hepatocyte infiltrating ECs (Alb, Serpina1e). **E,** Heat map of the top 10 enriched genes in each subcluster of lymphatics ECs and expression profiles of marker genes in collecting lymphatic ECs (Ctsd, Fn1, Prox1 and Lyve1), ECs of lymphangiogenesis (Aplnr, Flt1, Anxa3, Stab2, Clec14a, and Nrp1), and proliferative cells (Top2a, Mki67, and Cdk1). **F,** Heatmap of the top 10 enriched genes in each subcluster of EndMT ECs and expression profiles of marker genes in fibroblast (Col1a1, Ptn), smooth muscle cell (Acta2, Tagln), pericyte (Pdgfrb, Abcc9) and proliferating ECs (Mki67, Top2a).

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Supplemental Figure S4. Proliferation related genes were expressed more highly in embryonic ECs than in Adult's.

A, Gene Ontology analysis on different expressed genes (DEG) between embryonic ECs and adult ECs. The Biological Processes are mainly related to mitotic cell cycle, cell population proliferation and tube morphogenesis. **B,** Expression profile analysis on proliferation related genes across different organs or tissues by Vnplot. And quantification of Mki67+ cells proportion in each subcluster. **C,** Proliferation related genes' expression profile showed by FeaturePlot. **D,** double immunofluorescence staining of MKI67 and PECAM1 in embryonic and adult hepatic tissue frozen section. The white arrows indicate double-positive (MKI67+&PECAM1+) endothelial cells.

Supplemental Figure S5. Endocardium was potentially differentiated into multiple cells.

A, Endocardial aECs and eECs were classified into 3 subclusters. Colors denote different subclusters or mouse origin. **B,** Gene expression profiles of conventional endocardium (Npr3), cardiac valve (Postn, Hapln1, and Tbx20), and coronary ECs (Aplnr and Fabp4). **C,** Heat map of the top 10 enriched genes in each endocardial subcluster reveals the transcriptional diversity. **D,** Fractions of endocardial aECs and eECs in each subcluster. **E,** aECs and eECs transited to mesenchymal cells (cluster 12 and cluster 14 in Figure S2C) were classified into 3 subclusters and the atlas of cycling cells in EndoMT. **F,** Fractions of endocardial aECs and eECs in each subcluster. eECs: embryonic endothelial cells; aECs: adult endothelial cells.

Supplemental Figure S6. Sprouting angiogenesis was decreased in miR-126-ecKO embryos.

A, Strategy to generate miR-126 mutant mice by homologous recombination. Details were shown in methods. **B,** Quantitative reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (qRT-PCR) of miR-126 and ECs-related genes confirmed the specific knockout of miR-126 in ECs. **C,** The actual and expected number of mice for each genotype at E9.5~20.5 was shown. **D-E,** Vascular (**D**) and lymphatic (**E**) vessels sprouting were decreased in miR-126-ecKO embryos as indicated with blunted terminal, showed with white arrow heads. **F,** Lymphatic vessel migration rate was decreased in miR-126-ecKO embryos as indicated with marker genes PROX1 and LYVE1 by staining lymphatic vessels on dorsal skin at E14.5. Scale bar=500µm.

Supplemental Figure S7. Genes related to hypoxia response were preferentially upregulated in embryonic ECs of miR-126-ecKO mice.

A, immunofluorescence of ECs marker gene PECAM1 on miR-126-ecKO mice and littermate controls retina at postnatal Day 7. **B,** Genes related with hypoxia response and aberrantly upregulated after miR-126 knocked out were confirmed by Realtime PCR analysis on embryonic endothelial cells which obtained by FACS from miR-126 deficient mice and littermate control at E14.5. **C,** Feature plot of Hif1a in total miR-126-deficient endothelial cells and littermate controls. **D,** Dual immunofluorescence of HIF1A and PECAM1, the yellow arrows indicate the endothelial cells which expressed with HIF1A.

Supplemental Figure S8. Genes related to apoptosis were upregulated in miR-126 deficient eECs.

A-C, Heatmap analysis showing expression prefile of genes related to autophagy including Mex3 Family, Caspase Family, genes related to autophagy activation and genes related to lysosomal biogenesis. **D and E,** Feature plot and Vnplot analysis of genes composed of Mex3 family. **F,** Apoptosis analysis on embryonic ECs (eECs) at E14.5 by flow cytometry. **G,** Quantification of apoptosis rate changes after miR-126 being deficient in embryonic ECs. The CD45⁻, CD31⁺ and PI⁺ cells are apoptotic ECs.

Supplemental Figure S9. MiR-126 targets were mainly upregulated in miR-126 deficient eECs and had tissue heterogeneity.

A-C, Heatmap analysis showing miR-126-3p targets, miR-126-5p targets and their common targets expression profile in miR-126 deficient mice and littermate controls eECs single-cell data. **D,** Heatmap shows miR-126 targets expression profile changes after miR-126 knocked out. **E & F**, Gene Ontology analysis on miR-126-3p and miR-126-5p targets by *GoPlot*. **G,** GO analysis on screened miR-126 targets via R. package *GOPlot*. **H,** Display of the relationship between representative genes and terms by *GOchord.*

Supplemental Figure S10. Genes related to extracellular matrix (ECM) were upregulated in ECs of miR-126-ecKO embryos.

A, Expression file changes of genes related to Glucose transmembrane, cell proliferation and hypoxia after miR-126 knocked out in mice ECs. **B,** Quantitative PCR analysis on miR-126 deficient embryonic ECs and littermate controls. **C,** Dual immunofluorescence of LUM and PECAM1 on miR-126-deficient and littermate control hepatics tissues. Scale bar = 100um.

Supplemental Figure S11. Pulmonary ECs were decreased evenly, and cell adhesion related genes were upregulated in miR-126-ecKO embryos.

A, 2 subclusters were obtained from EndoMT (cluster 4 in Figure 6A). Colors denote different subclusters or mice line. **B,** Fractions of pulmonary ECs from miR-126-ecKO or littermate controls in each subcluster. **C and D,** Expression profile and Gene Ontology analysis of genes which are altered apparently after miR-126 knocked out in pulmonary embryonic ECs.

Major Resources Table

In order to allow validation and replication of experiments, all essential research materials listed in the Methods should be included in the Major Resources Table below. Authors are encouraged to use public repositories for protocols, data, code, and other materials and provide persistent identifiers and/or links to repositories when available. Authors may add or delete rows as needed.

Animals (in vivo studies)

Genetically Modified Animals

Antibodies

DNA/cDNA Clones

Cultured Cells

Other

Oligos used in this study

