

1 SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL

2 METHODS

3 Mice

4 Male and female mice were housed in ventilated cages of up to five animals, given *ad libitum* access to chow food and
5 water, on a 12 h light/dark cycle. Experimental mice were 12-16 weeks old and euthanized by CO₂ asphyxia. C57BL/6J
6 mice were used throughout, unless specified otherwise. Wnt-GFP reporter mice (TCF/Lef:H2B/GFP, Jax #013752) were
7 used for flow cytometric analysis of synovial cells after joint injury and for isolation of primary synovial fibroblasts (SFs). To
8 induce joint injury and PTOA, C57BL/6J or Wnt-GFP reporter mice were subjected to Sham (anesthesia and analgesia
9 only) or tibial compression-based, non-invasive anterior cruciate ligament rupture (ACLR), as reported previously (1) and
10 based on a modified protocol from Christiansen *et al* (2). Briefly, mice under inhaled isoflurane anesthesia were placed
11 prone on a custom fixture on a materials testing system (Electroforce 3300, TA Instruments). The right knee was flexed to
12 100° and the paw was mounted in 30° dorsiflexion. After preloading and preconditioning, a 1.5 mm displacement was
13 rapidly applied to the paw (10 mm/s), causing tibial subluxation and ACL rupture. Mice were then administered a single
14 subcutaneous dose of carprofen (5 mg/kg). For R-spondin 2 delivery, mice were given intra-articular injections of
15 recombinant mouse R-spondin 2 (500 ng, R&D Systems) or vehicle (phosphate-buffered saline, PBS) for five consecutive
16 days using a 33G needle and microsyringe (Hamilton) in a total volume of 5 µL. Hair was removed from the hindlimbs
17 using an electronic shaver and hair removal cream, and injections were carried out under isoflurane anesthesia. All
18 procedures were performed according to approved IACUC protocols.

19 Knee hyperalgesia testing

20 Prior to pain testing, mice were acclimated to handling and application of the measurement device. Knee hyperalgesia
21 was measured in a blinded fashion using a Randall-Selitto device (IITC Life Science) modified for pressure application on
22 a mouse knee, as described previously(1). The convex tip of the pressure applicator was applied to the medial knee joint
23 until a vocal or physical response occurred. The average reading of triplicate applications was calculated for each limb.

24 Near-infrared live imaging

25 To assess extracellular matrix remodeling in the joint, we employed live near-infrared imaging using the matrix
26 metalloproteinase (MMP) activatable fluorescent probe MMPsense680 (Perkin Elmer). The day prior to imaging, hair was
27 completely removed from the hindlimbs. Under isoflurane anesthesia, bilateral intra-articular injection of MMPsense680
28 (3) probe (4 µL per knee) was carried out using a 33G needle and microsyringe (Hamilton). Mice were recovered from
29 anesthesia, permitted two hours of cage activity, and then near-infrared imaging of hindlimbs was performed under
30 anesthesia using a Pearl Impulse Imaging System (LI-COR). MMPsense signal intensity was analyzed in ImageJ using a
31 consistent defined region of interest over the right and left knee to calculate raw integrated density value

32 Histology

33 Limbs from mice injected with vehicle or R-spondin 2 were harvested 28 d after the first injection, fixed for 48 h in 10%
34 neutral-buffered formalin, rinsed with water, decalcified for two weeks in 10% EDTA, then processed in paraffin. Sagittal
35 sections (5 µM) spanning the medial joint, spaced ~100 µM apart, were cut and stained with Safranin-O/Fast Green
36 (SafO) and Hematoxylin. Sections were imaged at 10x magnification on a Nikon Eclipse Ni E800 microscope with a Nikon
37 DS-Ri2 camera. Qualitative OA and synovitis grading was performed by two blinded observers according to established
38 grading schemes (4, 5), with the addition of a fibrosis sub-score for synovitis grading, given the recognized histological
39 and clinical importance of fibrosis in OA (6, 7). Grading criteria for PTOA and synovitis scores can be found in

Supplementary Tables 1 and 2. Scores were averaged across sections within each specific compartment of interest, for each limb (minimum of three sections per limb) to obtain mean limb scores for each independent grader. Then the mean scores were averaged across graders to obtain aggregate compartment scores for each limb.

Immunohistochemistry

Whole hindlimbs were collected from Sham or ACLR mice, fixed for 48 h in 10% neutral-buffered formalin, rinsed with water, subjected to decalcification for two weeks using 10% EDTA, and embedded in paraffin. Sagittal sections (5 μ m) spanning the medial joint were cut and mounted. Epitopes were retrieved in 10 mM sodium citrate buffer (pH 6.0) for 30 min at 70°C. After permeabilization and blocking, sections were incubated overnight at 4°C with primary antibody, then with secondary antibody for 1 h at room temperature. Sections were counterstained with Hoechst 33342 (Invitrogen), then incubated in 0.2% Sudan black for 30 min and mounted with ProLong Gold (Invitrogen). Slides were imaged at 10x (at least three sections per limb) on a Lionheart FX (Biotek) for three mice per condition. For qualitative grading of R-spondin 2 staining, the following scale was used: no expression (0), <25% expression (1), 25-50% expression (2), >50% expression (3). All antibody information can be found in Supplementary Table 3.

Immunocytochemistry

Primary SFs were plated on coverslips and fixed using 4% paraformaldehyde. Cells were permeabilized in 0.1% TBST, blocked for 1 h, then incubated overnight at 4°C in primary antibody. The following day, secondary antibody was added for 1 h at room temperature, before counterstaining with Hoechst 33342 (Invitrogen) and mounting of coverslips onto slides with ProLong Gold (Invitrogen). For staining of SFs on soft substrate dishes, cells were permeabilized with 0.3% Triton-X100 before 2 h of blocking in normal goat serum and overnight incubation with primary antibody. Images were acquired on a Lionheart FX (Biotek). All antibody information can be found in Supplementary Table 3.

Primary synovial fibroblast isolation and culture

SFs were isolated from C57BL/6J or Wnt-GFP reporter mice at 12-16 weeks of age. Hindpaw SFs were derived from the mouse hindpaw based on previously reported methods (8). Briefly, claws and skin were removed from hindpaws, muscles and tendons excised, then longitudinal incisions were made with a scalpel along the hindpaw. Both dissected hindpaws were digested for up to 50 min at 37°C and vortexed every 5 min in a 4.5 mL volume of synovial digestion medium (DMEM with 400 μ g/mL collagenase IV, 400 μ g/mL liberase, 400 μ g/mL DNaseI). After digestion, cells were centrifuged at 500 x g for 5 min then plated in DMEM containing 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS), 1x L-glutamine, and 1x antibiotic/antimycotic (Invitrogen). Knee-derived SFs were derived from mouse knee synovium as reported previously (1). Briefly, knee synovium was dissected from the anterior, medial, and lateral compartments, including the fat pad (9), keeping the joint space hydrated with PBS throughout. Surrounding capsule and muscle was carefully removed or avoided. The posterior synovium and posterior fat pad were not collected. Synovia were digested for up to 35 min while shaking at 1000 rpm at 37°C, with vortexing at 0, 15 and 30 min. Up to two synovia were digested together in a 1.5 mL volume of synovial digestion listed above. Cells were pelleted by centrifugation after digestion then plated in culture medium as listed above for hindpaw-derived SFs. Both hindpaw-derived and knee-derived SFs were used for experiments between passage 4 to 6. Prior to treatment, SFs were serum-starved overnight and treated in the absence of serum. To reduce basal Wnt signaling activity, SFs were seeded atop soft polydimethylsiloxane (PDMS) substrates (1.5 kPa μ -Dish ESS, 35 mm diameter, Ibidi, Martinsreid, Germany) coated with fibrinogen (10). In brief, 0.8 mg/mL fibrinogen in 1 M Tris-HCl was overlaid on the substrates for 2 h. Cells were seeded at a density of 16,500 cells/cm². SFs were serum starved (1% FCS) the night before treatment.

Primary bone marrow-derived macrophage (BMDM) isolation and culture

80 BMDM were grown from whole mouse bone marrow based on previously reported protocols (1, 11). Briefly, femoral and
81 tibial bone marrow from C57BL/6J mice aged 12-16 weeks was flushed and grown in DMEM containing 10% FBS, 1x
82 L-glutamine, 1x antibiotic/antimycotic (Invitrogen), and 20 ng/mL recombinant M-CSF (Gibco). BMDM were lifted and
83 seeded into experimental plates for treatment at passage 1.

84 **ATDC5 culture and differentiation**

85 ATDC5 cells were kindly provided by Dr. Rhima Coleman (University of Michigan). Cells were cultured in DMEM
86 containing 10% FBS, 1x L-glutamine and 1x antibiotic/antimycotic (Invitrogen). For chondrogenic differentiation, ATDC5
87 cells were grown to 90% confluency then switched to differentiation media (DMEM high glucose, 10 ng/mL TGF β , 100 nM
88 dexamethasone, 40 μ g/mL ascorbic acid 2-phosphate, 1 mM sodium pyruvate, 40 μ g/mL L-proline, and 1x ITS pre-mix
89 containing 6.25 μ g/mL insulin, 6.25 μ g/mL transferrin, 6.25 μ g/mL selenous acid, 5.33 μ g/mL linoleic acid, 1.25 mg/mL
90 bovine serum albumin). Cells were differentiated for 21 days, with media replaced every 3 days.

91 **Gene expression analysis**

92 Transcript levels were analyzed in whole synovium, ATDC5 cells, BMDM, hindpaw-derived SFs and knee-derived SFs.
93 Synovium were subjected to homogenization in CK28 PreCellys tubes (Bertin Technologies) containing TRIzol
94 (Invitrogen) at 4°C for two to three cycles on the soft tissue setting (5800 rpm, 2 x 15 s, 30 s rest). Debris was then
95 removed by centrifugation at 10,000 x g for 10 min before proceeding with phenol-chloroform RNA isolation, as with cell
96 culture samples. Nucleic acid concentration and purity was determined using a Nanodrop spectrophotometer
97 (ThermoFisher) then a standard amount of RNA subjected to reverse transcription using the High-Capacity cDNA
98 Reverse Transcription Kit (Applied Biosystems). Quantitative real-time PCR (qPCR) was employed to assess gene
99 expression using Power SYBR Master Mix (Applied Biosystems) on a QuantStudio5 Real-Time PCR System (Applied
100 Biosystems). Genes of interest were normalized to expression of a stable housekeeping gene and control samples set to
101 1 using the $2^{-\Delta\Delta Ct}$ method. All primer sequences can be found in Supplementary Table 4. For calculation of the M1:M2
102 macrophage polarization score, based on Paige *et al* (12), we used a composite of M1 (*Ii1b*, *Ii6* and *Nos2*) and M2 (*Mrc1*,
103 *Ii10* and *Arg1*) gene expression. Expression levels of each gene were first normalized to prevent bias arising from
104 differential baseline expression. The M1:M2 score was then calculated as a ratio of the sum of normalized M1 gene
105 expression values to the sum of normalized M2 gene expression values.

106 **siRNA knockdown of Sox5**

107 Hindpaw SFs were seeded into 12-well plates at a density of 20,000 cells/well. At ~75% confluency, cells were
108 transfected with 25 μ M siRNA or were left untransfected (Sham). The following siRNAs were all purchased from
109 Invitrogen: Silencer™ Select Negative Control No. 1 siRNA (#4390843), Silencer™ Select Sox5 siRNA n377426, and
110 Silencer™ Select Sox5 siRNA n377427. 25 nM of siRNA was transfected per reaction, using DharmaFECT 1 Transfection
111 Reagent (according to manufacturer's instructions) in Opti-MEM reduced serum media (Invitrogen). After 24 h, the
112 transfection media was replaced with DMEM media containing 10% FCS, 1x L-glutamine and 1x antibiotic/antimycotic
113 (Invitrogen). After another 24 h (48 h post-transfection), cells were harvested in TRIzol (Invitrogen) for RNA isolation.

114 **Protein quantification**

115 Conditioned medium was harvested from cell cultures, centrifuged at 500 x g for 5 min to remove debris, then stored
116 at -80°C. Synovial fluid was collected from mouse knees based on the protocol reported by Seifer *et al* (13). Briefly, the
117 joint capsule was carefully opened and an alginate microsphere inserted for 30 s to recover synovial fluid. The soaked
118 sponge was then removed and placed into a cryovial for flash freezing and storage at -80°C. Upon thawing, alginate lyase

119 was added for incubation at 34°C for 30 min to digest the sponge. At completion, sodium citrate was added prior to
120 vortexing.

121 To quantify the concentration of total protein in synovial fluid samples, a Coomassie Plus Assay Kit (based on the
122 Bradford assay) was used in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. This permitted normalization of target analyte
123 concentration to total protein amount in synovial fluid, given the variability of fluid recovery from mouse to mouse. To
124 measure the concentration of R-spondin 2 in synovial fluid or cell culture conditioned medium, a mouse R-spondin 2
125 ELISA kit (CusaBio) was used according to manufacturer's instructions.

126 **Flow cytometry**

127 Multicolor flow cytometry was used to assess synovial cell types based on expression of surface-based or intracellular
128 proteins, to measure cell viability, to assess endogenous reporter signal, or to evaluate fibroblast markers on the surface
129 of cultured hindpaw SFs. Synovial tissue was dissected and digested as described above, resulting in a single cell
130 suspension. Hindpaw SFs were lifted with 0.25% trypsin-EDTA at passage 2 or 4, immediately prior to staining. For
131 viability testing, cells were either pre-stained with a fixable viability dye (eFluor660, eBioscience) or post-stained with a
132 nuclear viability dye (TOPRO3, Invitrogen). Cold FACS buffer (PBS containing 2% FBS, 1 mM EDTA) was used for all
133 staining and preparation steps, and for running samples on the cytometer. For all experiments, non-specific binding was
134 blocked using TruStain FcX (Biolegend). For intracellular detection of R-spondin 2, cells were fixed and permeabilized
135 using the Cyto-Fast Fix-Perm Buffer Set (Biolegend), and an anti-R-spondin 2 antibody (ProteinTech) or Rabbit IgG
136 Isotype Control (Abcam) were used with a secondary anti-rabbit BV421. CD31-PECy7 (Biolegend) and CD45-BV650
137 (Biolegend) were used for surface staining to identify major synovial cell types; Podoplanin-FITC (Biolegend), CD90.2-
138 PE/Dazzle594 (Biolegend), and CD55-PE/Cy7 (Biolegend) were used as fibroblast surface markers, and CD11b-BV605
139 (Biolegend) as a macrophage marker; and the Wnt-GFP fluorescent reporter was used to assess canonical Wnt signaling
140 activity based on TCF/Lef transcriptional activity. Antibodies and their conjugates are listed in detail in Supplementary
141 Table 3. In addition to fully stained samples, all experiments included an unstained cells control, single-stained controls
142 comprised of cells or UltraComp eBeads (Invitrogen), and fluorescence-minus-one (FMO) or isotype controls to determine
143 population gating. Compensation and acquisition were performed using a BD LSRFortessa cytometer with FACSDiva
144 software (BD Biosciences), then data analysis was performed using FlowJo v10 (TreeStar/BD Biosciences).

145 **Single-cell RNA-sequencing (scRNA-seq)**

146 For scRNA-seq, two biological replicates of the following conditions were used: Sham (no injury, anesthesia/analgesic
147 only), 7d ACLR, and 28d ACLR, for a total of six samples. Each biological replicate was comprised of a synovium from
148 one male and from one female mouse. For Sham, one biological replicate was comprised of cells from mice harvested 7d
149 after Sham, and the other replicate from mice harvested 28d after Sham. Both Sham samples showed high correlation of
150 cell clustering (Figure S1D). Synovia were dissected and digested as described above, to yield a single cell suspension at
151 >90% viability. Single cells were immediately submitted to the University of Michigan Advanced Genomics Core for
152 loading onto the 10x Genomics pipeline (Chromium Next GEM Single Cell 3' Kit v3.1) for barcoding and library
153 preparation. Pooled libraries were then submitted to BGI for paired-end (100bp+100bp) sequencing on the DNBseq G400
154 system (MGI Tech), generating ~350 million reads per sample (>50 000 reads per cell). Raw data were aligned to the
155 GRCm38 (mm10) reference mouse transcriptome using STAR (14) and underwent pre-processing in Cell Ranger v3.1.0
156 (10x Genomics).

157 **Quality control, filtering, clustering, annotation, and analysis of scRNA-seq data**

158 Pre-processed aligned data were read from Cell Ranger into Seurat (R, v4.1.0). Cells with less than 100 detected genes
159 and genes expressed in less than 10 cells were excluded from Seurat object generation. Next, low-quality cells were
160 filtered out based on number of expressed features (i.e. genes), with remaining cells having $200 < nFeature < 6000$. Cells
161 in which $> 5\%$ of all genes were mitochondrial-derived ($percent.mt > 0.05$) were also excluded. Canonical correlation
162 analysis, which performs anchor-based integration (15), was used to integrate data across conditions (Sham, 7d ACLR,
163 28d ACLR) using the top 3000 variable features. In tandem, we performed Spearman correlation analysis of average
164 expression for all genes between integrated biological replicates of each condition. *ScaleData()* was used to perform
165 linear transformation and to regress out unwanted variation due to cell cycle and mitochondrial gene expression. Linear
166 dimensionality reduction was performed using principal component analysis, and elbow plots and principal component
167 heatmaps were used to determine the number of dimensions used in subsequent nonlinear dimensionality reduction via
168 Uniform Manifold Approximation and Projection (UMAP). Dimensions 1-25 were used in the object representing all
169 conditions, all biological replicates, and all cells. Unsupervised clustering was performed using *FindNeighbors* ($dims =$
170 $1:25$) and *FindClusters* ($resolution = 0.3$) to derive distinct cell clusters.

171 Cluster markers were identified using *FindAllMarkers*. Genes expressed in greater than 80% of cells in the cluster of
172 interest and in less than 20% of cells in all other cells were focused on, as were genes with positive differential expression
173 relative to other clusters, as opposed to negative markers. To identify and functionally annotate cell clusters, the genes
174 outputted by *FindAllMarkers* for each cluster were submitted to Gene Ontology (GO) pathway analysis (GO: Biological
175 Process) using PantherDB (16, 17). We further utilized Cluster Identity Predictor (CIPR) (18) and published synovial
176 scRNA-seq datasets at the Single Cell Portal (19, 20) to compare gene marker profiles to known cell annotations. The
177 Mouse Brain Atlas (mousebrain.org) (21) was used to identify Schwann cells. Violin plots and gene feature plots were
178 generated using the Seurat functions *VlnPlot()* and *FeaturePlot()*, respectively. Bubble plots of GO terms were made
179 using ggplot2 (22). Global gene expression differences between conditions or groups were assessed by identifying the top
180 25 differentially expressed genes (DEGs) between conditions with most positive and most negative log₂FC using a
181 pseudo-bulk analysis approach and DESeq2 (23). Read counts of genes were then subset by sample, and then averaged
182 for all cells across each sample. Global z-scores of average read count for each gene were computed and plotted using
183 *pheatmap*.

184 To identify fibroblast subsets, all fibroblast-like cells (not including pericytes) were subset from the “all synovial cells”
185 Seurat objects within each condition and re-clustered ($dims = 1:25$, $resolution = 0.13$). Cluster markers and functional
186 annotation were performed as described above. To identify conserved functions across all fibroblast subsets, the *gsfisher*
187 R package was used to test for GO overrepresentation, and the gene universe (i.e. background list of expressed genes)
188 was defined as genes expressed in 25% of cells in the cluster of interest or 25% of all remaining cells. To identify unique
189 functions across fibroblast subsets, the statistically significant ($Q < 0.05$, where Q is the P value adjusted for false
190 discovery rate) genes and their Log₂FC from *FindAllMarkers()* were submitted to GO (Biological Processes) or Reactome
191 analysis via PantherDB. Pathway terms were manually curated and grouped into categories of conserved themes based
192 on the following criteria: $Q < 0.05$ (expressed as $\log_{10}(FDR)$), only found in a single cluster, rich ratio (higher number of
193 DEGs in proportion to the total genes in term), and pathway term similarity. Fibroblast subsets were identified, defined,
194 and named based on these categories and known, functionally relevant cluster markers.

195 For comparison of fibroblast subsets to human OA and RA, scRNA-seq data from two studies, Wei *et al*, Nature, 2020
196 (20) and Zhang *et al*, Nat Immunol, 2019 (19), were downloaded from the Single Cell Portal
197 (singlecell.broadinstitute.org/single_cell) and feature plots generated using ggplot2 (22).

198 **Intercellular communication analysis**

199 The CellChat R package (CellChat 1.1.3) (24) was used to infer and quantify cell-cell communication networks. In the
200 analysis of all synovial cells, macrophages and dendritic cells were combined into a single “myeloid” group, and vascular
201 endothelial cells and lymphatic endothelial cells were combined into a single “endothelial” group to focus on major cell
202 group signaling. Consistent with recommendations by the CellChat toolbox to curate expanded ligand-receptor sets for
203 focused analysis of signaling axes of interest, an “Rspo” pathway of known ligand-receptor interactions between
204 R-spondins 1-4 and Lgr receptors 4-6 was added to the pathway interaction database. Over-expressed genes and ligand-
205 receptor interactions were identified with default *identifyOverExpressedGenes()* and *identifyOverExpressedInteractions()*
206 functions. Data were projected against the provided PPI.mouse dataset to reduce dropout effects of signaling genes.
207 Probabilities of cell-cell communications were inferred with *computeCommunProb()*. The method for calculating average
208 gene expression per cell group was *triMean* for all synovial cells, and *truncatedMean* with 10% trim for SFs. River plots
209 were generated with pattern numbers at which cophenetic and silhouette measure scores decreased simultaneously, and
210 conservative cutoff values at which all patterns were present. Circle plots and contribution plots for pathways of interest
211 were constructed using the *netVisual_aggregate()* and *netAnalysis_contribution()* functions.

212 **Trajectory and Transcription Factor Binding Motif Analyses**

213 Cellular trajectory analysis was performed using Monocle3 (v1.0.0) (25) in R. First, the Seurat object representing all
214 fibroblasts across all conditions was imported into Monocle3 using the Seurat-Monocle wrapper. Data was preprocessed
215 with the same number of dimensions as the Seurat-based analysis, and nonlinear dimensionality reduction was performed
216 using UMAP. Trajectories were reconstructed using the *learn_graph()* function, and cells were ordered along pseudotime
217 using the *order_cells()* function. The reconstructed trajectory identified a terminal node in the Dpp4+ cluster, which was
218 selected as the trajectory root. Next, the trajectory branch originating in the Dpp4+ cluster and terminating in the Prg4^{hi}
219 cluster was subset for focused pseudotime-dependent analyses of Prg4^{hi} lining fibroblasts. Unsupervised preprocessing,
220 dimensionality reduction, and clustering of this trajectory was performed, and *learn_graph()* identified a trajectory from
221 Dpp4+ cells to Prg4^{hi} cells, via αSMA+ cells. The trajectory node in the most proximal aspect of the Dpp4+ cluster was
222 again selected as a root, and pseudotime was calculated. To find genes that vary as a function of pseudotime along a
223 trajectory, gene read count data was fitted to a quadratic spline function, similar to the *plot_genes_in_pseudotime()*
224 function in Monocle3. Genes with quadratic $r^2 > 0.15$ and with trajectory-wide average read count values > 0.1 (to exclude
225 noise) were then analyzed for co-regulation using the *find_gene_modules()* function, which groups genes into modules
226 depending on their variance patterns along pseudotime using Louvain community analysis. Modules with high degree of
227 composite expression in the Prg4^{hi} cluster (Module 2 in Figure S10A), representing genes that either increase or decrease
228 with similar variance patterns indicative of co-regulation, were selected for subsequent transcription factor (TF) binding
229 analysis to identify the TFs regulating lineage specification of Prg4^{hi} lining cells. These genes were then input to the
230 RcisTarget (26) R package for DNA binding motif analysis. *mm9-tss-centered-10kb-7species.mc9nr.feather* was applied
231 as a database with motifs using the “directAnnotation” parameter. SOX5 was predicted as a key TF enriched in the Prg4^{hi}
232 lining cluster that regulates *Rspo2* and other co-regulated genes along the differentiation trajectory. TF gene regulatory
233 network for SOX5 was then visualized using Cytoscape (v3.91) (27).

234 **Sample sizes and statistical analyses**

235 Microsoft Excel was used for tabulation of raw data. GraphPad Prism 9 was used for statistical analyses and generation of
236 figures. All data are presented as mean \pm SEM and $P < 0.05$ was considered statistically significant. Shapiro-Wilk tests
237 were used to assess normal distribution. For two-group comparisons of normally distributed data, parametric two-tailed
238 student’s t-tests were used, in a paired or unpaired manner dependent upon the experimental design. For comparisons of
239 data across three or more independent groups/conditions, one-way or two-way ANOVA with post-hoc Tukey testing were

240 used for normally distributed data. For scRNA-seq analyses, we used default statistical tests built into R packages Seurat,
241 Monocle, RcisTarget, and CellChat, that employ false discovery rate testing to account for multiple comparisons in large
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