

## Reporting Summary

Nature Portfolio wishes to improve the reproducibility of the work that we publish. This form provides structure for consistency and transparency in reporting. For further information on Nature Portfolio policies, see our [Editorial Policies](#) and the [Editorial Policy Checklist](#).

### Statistics

For all statistical analyses, confirm that the following items are present in the figure legend, table legend, main text, or Methods section.

- | n/a                                 | Confirmed  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The exact sample size ( $n$ ) for each experimental group/condition, given as a discrete number and unit of measurement  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A statement on whether measurements were taken from distinct samples or whether the same sample was measured repeatedly  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The statistical test(s) used AND whether they are one- or two-sided<br><i>Only common tests should be described solely by name; describe more complex techniques in the Methods section.</i>   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> A description of all covariates tested  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A description of any assumptions or corrections, such as tests of normality and adjustment for multiple comparisons  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A full description of the statistical parameters including central tendency (e.g. means) or other basic estimates (e.g. regression coefficient) AND variation (e.g. standard deviation) or associated estimates of uncertainty (e.g. confidence intervals) |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For null hypothesis testing, the test statistic (e.g. $F$ , $t$ , $r$ ) with confidence intervals, effect sizes, degrees of freedom and $P$ value noted<br><i>Give <math>P</math> values as exact values whenever suitable.</i>                            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> For Bayesian analysis, information on the choice of priors and Markov chain Monte Carlo settings  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> For hierarchical and complex designs, identification of the appropriate level for tests and full reporting of outcomes  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Estimates of effect sizes (e.g. Cohen's $d$ , Pearson's $r$ ), indicating how they were calculated   |

*Our web collection on [statistics for biologists](#) contains articles on many of the points above.*

### Software and code

Policy information about [availability of computer code](#)

Data collection

Data analysis

All manuscripts utilizing custom algorithms or software that are central to the research but not yet described in published literature, software must be made available to editors and reviewers. We strongly encourage code deposition in a community repository (e.g. GitHub). See the Nature Portfolio [guidelines for submitting code & software](#) for further information.

### Data

Policy information about [availability of data](#)

All manuscripts must include a [data availability statement](#). This statement should provide the following information, where applicable:

- Accession codes, unique identifiers, or web links for publicly available datasets
- A description of any restrictions on data availability
- For clinical datasets or third party data, please ensure that the statement adheres to our [policy](#)

## Human research participants

Policy information about [studies involving human research participants and Sex and Gender in Research](#).

Reporting on sex and gender	N/A
Population characteristics	N/A
Recruitment	N/A
Ethics oversight	N/A

Note that full information on the approval of the study protocol must also be provided in the manuscript.

## Field-specific reporting

Please select the one below that is the best fit for your research. If you are not sure, read the appropriate sections before making your selection.

Life sciences     Behavioural & social sciences     Ecological, evolutionary & environmental sciences

For a reference copy of the document with all sections, see [nature.com/documents/nr-reporting-summary-flat.pdf](https://www.nature.com/documents/nr-reporting-summary-flat.pdf)

## Life sciences study design

All studies must disclose on these points even when the disclosure is negative.

Sample size	We initially used the G*power method to account for the animals used in this study. Yet, due to standardization, we exceeded that number
Data exclusions	We excluded some in vitro data due to poor culture outcome, as well as one of the reviewer's suggested experiment
Replication	All experiments have been reproduced and the variation has been noted, where appropriate.
Randomization	no randomization took place
Blinding	blinding was evident in both flow cytometry and in vivo data

## Reporting for specific materials, systems and methods

We require information from authors about some types of materials, experimental systems and methods used in many studies. Here, indicate whether each material, system or method listed is relevant to your study. If you are not sure if a list item applies to your research, read the appropriate section before selecting a response.

Materials & experimental systems		Methods	
n/a	Involved in the study	n/a	Involved in the study
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Antibodies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> ChIP-seq
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eukaryotic cell lines	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flow cytometry
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Palaeontology and archaeology	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> MRI-based neuroimaging
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Animals and other organisms		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Clinical data		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Dual use research of concern		

## Antibodies

Antibodies used	anti-human/mouse GFRA2 Polyclonal Goat IgG (R&D Systems), rat monoclonal anti-PDGFR beta antibody conjugated with PE (Abcam, APB5), donkey polyclonal anti-goat IgG Alexa 405 conjugated with UV (Abcam), rat monoclonal IgG2b anti-mouse KDR-Alexa647 conjugated with APC (BioLegend). 7-AAD (BioLegend, Cat no. 420404) was used as a viability marker. Sca-1 (Biolegend Cat no. 108127), c-Kit (Biolegend, Cat no. 105813), CD31 (Biolegend, Cat no. 102524), Cardiac troponin T (cTnT, 1/100, mouse monoclonal, Abcam), alpha smooth muscle actin (aSMA) (1/100, rabbit polyclonal, Abcam) and CD31 (1/25, Rabbit polyclonal, Abcam). For enhancing the endogenous YFP signal, in ICC, we used anti-GFP FITC-conjugated (1/100, goat polyclonal, Abcam). MF20 (mouse monoclonal, 1/100, Developmental Biology Hybridoma Bank), Tbx5 (rabbit polyclonal, 1/100, Sigma), GFRA2 (chicken polyclonal, 1/500, Antibodies-online, ABIN1450225), Connexin 43 (cat no C6219-.2ML, rabbit polyclonal, 1/2000, Sigma), $\alpha$ -actinin (A7811, clone
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EA-53, mouse monoclonal, 1/500, Sigma), Ki67 (ab15580, rabbit polyclonal, 1:100, Abcam). For enhancing the endogenous YFP signal in IHC, we used anti-GFP (chicken polyclonal, 1/1000, Abcam).

Validation

All antibodies applied, have been validated in relation to the species and technique used.

## Eukaryotic cell lines

Policy information about [cell lines and Sex and Gender in Research](#)

Cell line source(s)

We used our in-house murine primary ESCs, described in Kokkinopoulos et al. 2016, PLoS ONE.

Authentication

This step occurred in Kokkinopoulos et al. 2016, PLoS ONE.

Mycoplasma contamination

Mycoplasma testing was performed once, indicating no mycoplasma contamination

Commonly misidentified lines  
(See [ICLAC](#) register)

N/A

## Animals and other research organisms

Policy information about [studies involving animals; ARRIVE guidelines](#) recommended for reporting animal research, and [Sex and Gender in Research](#)

Laboratory animals

Adult (both female and male) two-three month-old Tbx5CreERT2/Rosa26ReYFP/eYFP, Tbx5CreERT2+/Rosa26ReYFP+/Rosa26RIDTR/+ were employed. These animals were bred on a mixed background.

Wild animals

N/A

Reporting on sex

N/A

Field-collected samples

N/A

Ethics oversight

All animal work has been approved by the BRFAA ethics committee and the Attica Veterinary Department (Animal Licence; 60876/23-1-20)

Note that full information on the approval of the study protocol must also be provided in the manuscript.

## Flow Cytometry

### Plots

Confirm that:

- The axis labels state the marker and fluorochrome used (e.g. CD4-FITC).
- The axis scales are clearly visible. Include numbers along axes only for bottom left plot of group (a 'group' is an analysis of identical markers).
- All plots are contour plots with outliers or pseudocolor plots.
- A numerical value for number of cells or percentage (with statistics) is provided.

### Methodology

Sample preparation

Cultured cells were treated with 0.05% trypsin/EDTA (Gibco) for 5 min at 37°C under 5% CO<sub>2</sub>. Prior to Ab staining, cells were blocked with 5% FBS in 1X PBS for 20'.

Instrument

ARIA II Analyzer (BD Biosciences)

Software

FACSDiva 7.0 software

Cell population abundance

7-AAD (BioLegend, Cat no. 420404) was used as a viability marker

Gating strategy

gating strategy is described in the supplementary methods

- Tick this box to confirm that a figure exemplifying the gating strategy is provided in the Supplementary Information.