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Pierre Osteil, Sarah Withey, Nicole Santucci, Nader Aryamanesh, Chi Nam Ignatius Pang, et al.. Unraveling the Role of MIXL1 Activation in Endoderm Differentiation of Isogenic Human Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells. 2024. hal-04496012

## HAL Id: hal-04496012 https://hal.science/hal-04496012

Preprint submitted on 8 Mar 2024

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# Unraveling the Role of MIXL1 Activation in Endoderm Differentiation of Isogenic Human Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells

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Human induced pluripotent stem cells (hiPSC) possess the ability to differentiate into a multitude of tissue types but display heterogeneity in the propensity of differentiation into specific tissue lineages. An examination of isogenic hiPSC lines revealed variations in the endoderm propensity under directed differentiation conditions. Characterization of the transcriptome and proteome of the hiPSC lines showed that *MIXL1* activity at the early differentiation stage correlated with the efficacy of generating definitive endoderm and further differentiation into endoderm derivatives. Enforced expression of *MIXL1* in the endoderm-incompetent hiPSCs enhanced the propensity of endoderm differentiation, suggesting that modulation of key drivers of lineage differentiation can re-wire hiPSC to the desired lineage propensity for stem cell products.

## Introduction

Human induced pluripotent stem cells (hiPSCs) are noted for their ability to differentiate into a multitude of cell and tissue types <sup>1–6</sup>. Many protocols have been developed to direct the differentiation of hiPSCs to desirable types of cells or tissues, including the endoderm precursor, the definitive endoderm<sup>7–10</sup> and endoderm derivatives such as intestinal cells <sup>11–13</sup> pancreatic cells<sup>14</sup> and hepatocytes<sup>15–18</sup>. A recent study of a bank of hiPSC lines derived from 125 individuals revealed that hiPSC lines respond differently when directed to differentiate to definitive endoderm<sup>19</sup>, suggesting that there is innate heterogeneity in the propensity for endoderm differentiation among hiPSC lines. In this study the lineage propensity has been linked to specific quantitative trait loci (QTL). Both genetic determinants <sup>20–22</sup>, and somatic or epigenetic memory related to the cell/tissue of origin<sup>23–26</sup>, have been shown to underpin the variable lineage specification and differentiation propensity of hiPSCs. The impact of epigenetic memory on establishment of functional tissue nevertheless remains unresolved, even when examining isogenic cell lines from the same cellular resource and reprogrammed under the same

conditions<sup>27</sup>. In the present study, we investigated the propensity of endoderm differentiation of eleven pluripotent lines of four sets of isogenic hiPSCs by tracking the differentiation from pluripotent cells to definitive endoderm (DE), hepatocytes and intestinal organoids (hIO). We showed that in isogenic hiPSCs, early activation and a high level of MIXL1 expression were associated with enhanced propensity of endoderm differentiation. In the mouse embryo, MixI1 is expressed in the primitive streak and the nascent mesoderm during gastrulation and expression persists in the primitive streak of the early-somite-stage embryo<sup>28,29</sup>. Loss of Mixl1 function is associated with deficiency of DE and under-expansion of the nascent mesoderm<sup>30</sup>. In the mouse embryonic stem cells, loss of MixI1 function leads to inefficient differentiation of lateral mesoderm tissue and hematopoietic lineages<sup>31</sup>, whereas constitutive *Mixl1* activity promotes the differentiation of Foxa2+/ECad+ DE cells<sup>32</sup>. In mouse epiblast stem cells, activation of *Mixl1* at the early phase of differentiation correlates with improved endoderm differentiation<sup>28</sup>. Analysis of the molecular attributes of DE differentiation revealed that the activity of MIXL1 at the early phase of hiPSC differentiation promotes the differentiation of SOX17+ DE cells when confined to defined size micropattern<sup>33</sup>. We further showed that enhanced expression of MIXL1 in hiPSCs augmented endoderm propensity, advancing the understanding of how lineage propensity can be re-wired to generate fit-for-purpose pluripotent stem cells for translational application.

## Results

## Early onset of gastrulation is necessary for definitive endoderm formation

Eleven hiPSC lines from four isogenic groups (two males and two females)<sup>34,35</sup> were subjected to DE differentiation by following the manufacturer instruction (STEMDiff definitive endoderm protocol) (Figure 1A) and assessed for expression of FOXA2 and SOX17 on Day 4 of differentiation (Figure 1B and C, Supplementary Figure S1A and B). Among the hiPSCs, C32 had the lowest expression of both endodermal transcription factors, despite comparable cell morphology to other cell lines (Figure 1C), suggesting that this cell line is not amenable to definitive endoderm differentiation. To track the developmental trajectory, cells were collected in triplicate every day from Day 0 (pluripotency) to Day 4 (DE), and the expression of 96 genes involved in regulating pluripotency to gastrulation was profiled. Line C32 showed the least progression across the 4 days of differentiation in the PCA plot (Figure 1D). By taking PC1 as an endoderm differentiation efficiency proxy<sup>19</sup>, to infer an endoderm specification pseudotime, the average of triplicate PC eigenvalue along the PC1 axis was calculated to rank the hiPSC lines (Figure 1E). The results show that C32 ranked last, indicating that low DE differentiation efficiency could account for the differentiation failure previously suggested by the absence of FOXA2 and SOX17 double positive cells.

To unveil the earliest manifestation of such discrepancies, the same PCA as Figure 1D was plotted for each day, to discern differences among cell lines that may not be visible on the full timeline of differentiation (Figure 1F). The C32 line displayed disparity on the main axis from the cohort at Day 1 (Figure 1G). The low differentiation efficiency does not appear to be linked to a slower down-regulation of pluripotency factors as there are no significant differences among the 11 cell lines for *POU5F1*, *NANOG*, *SOX2*, *PRDM14*, *ZFP42* and *FGF5* mRNA expression

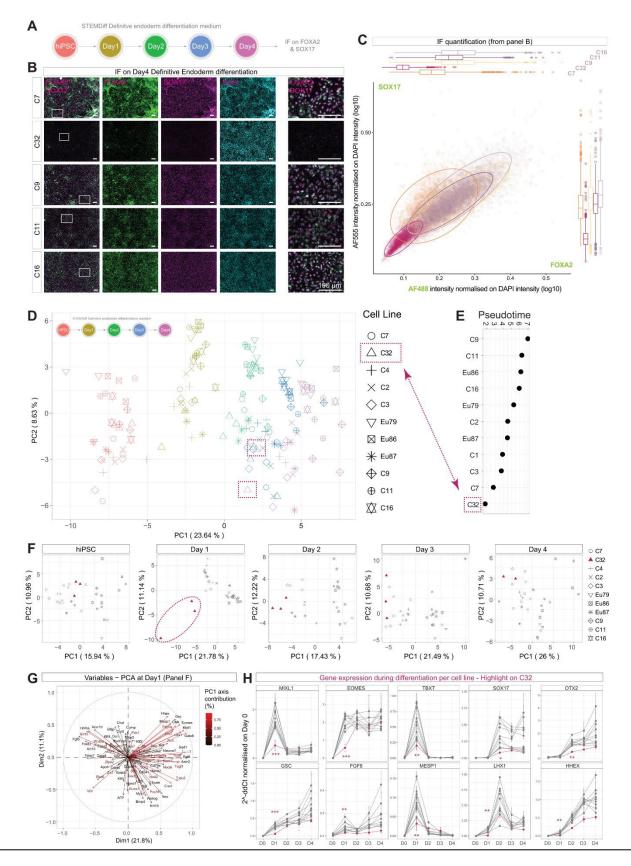


Figure 1 – Definitive endoderm differentiation heterogeneity among isogenic lines: A) Differentiation protocol used to generate definitive endoderm (DE) cells; B) Immunostaining images of DE cells on FOXA2 (green) and SOX17 (magenta), scale bar = 100μm; C) Signal intensity measurement of immunostaining of panel B, n= 3. D) PCA obtained from microfluidic RT-qPCR data on DE differentiation time courses. Each day is represented by the same color as Figure 1A (inserted on top left). Purple squares highlight C32 at Day 4 of DE differentiation; E) PC1 axis projection of hiPSC at Day 4 of DE differentiation representing efficiency of differentiation as pseudotime. C32 is highlighted in purple. F) PCA obtained from microfluidic RT-qPCR data on DE differentiation, identical dataset to figure 1D, but plotted for each day. C32 is highlighted in purple; G) Genes' contribution to PC1 and PC2 axis of the Day 1 PCA of Figure 2F. The position of the arrows correlates with the position of the samples on the PCA at Day 1. Colour scale is between 0 and 1. A score of 1 indicates maximum contribution of a particular gene to PC1. H) Genes' expression time course during DE differentiation. C32 is highlighted in purple. p.value: \* < 0.05, \*\* < 0.01, \*\*\* < 0.001.

83 down-regulated at Day1 in C32 compared to the cohort (Figure 1H). C32 also has the lowest

84 levels of expression of SOX17, HHEX, OTX2 and LHX1 at Day 4. KRT19, AXIN2, GATA6 and

85 GATA4 are expressed at a lower level in the C32 line, although this did not reach significance

(Supplementary Figure S2Aii). Surprisingly, FOXA2 and NODAL are not dysregulated in the C32

86 line. In addition, mesodermal genes (BMP4, MYH7, KLF5, KDR, PDGRFa and CD34) 87

88 (Supplementary Figure S2Aiii) as well as ectodermal genes (KRT10, SOX1, NES, FOXD3,

PAX6 and DCX) (Supplementary Figure S2Aiv) showed no significant difference between C32

90 and other lines.

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91 In conclusion, the inability of C32 to activate the molecular program of germ layer differentiation

to a threshold level may be predictive of the low endoderm propensity of this hiPSC line.

#### Low endodermal propensity line fails to progress toward functional tissue

Human iPSC lineage propensity was further assessed by the outcome of differentiation into two endoderm derivatives, hepatocytes (HCm) and intestinal organoids (hIOs) (Figure 2A). C32 was compared to the higher DE propensity cell line C11<sup>34,35</sup>. Both cell lines were able to differentiate into hepatocytes (Figure 2C). Microfluidic RT-qPCR analysis of genes specific to hepatocyte development did not reveal any major differences in the transcriptome between these two cell lines during hepatocyte differentiation (Figure 2B). The phenotype of AAT- and ALB-expressing hepatocytes was also similar (Figure 2C, D and Supplementary Figure S1C). However, C32derived hepatocytes showed lower Cytochrome P450 3A4 activity across replicates (Figure 2E) indicating that C32 hepatocytes might have a less efficient metabolism compared to C11.

104 In parallel, hIOs were generated from these two cell lines (Figure 2F). At the mid/hindgut budding 105 spheroid stage, the C32 line generated fewer spheroids than the C11 line (Figure 2Gi). The few 106 spheroids that were successfully generated were embedded into Matrigel but did not grow as 107 well as C11 spheroids (Figure 2Gii). Consequently, hIO development was arrested early after 108 passage 3 (Figure 2Giii). The hIO differentiation of C32 line was repeated with changes in 109 seeding densities and batches of cells, but the outcome remained unsuccessful (data not 110 shown). Microfluidic RT-qPCR analysis of genes specific to intestinal organoid differentiation did 111 not show any discernible signature that could be indicative of inefficient differentiation prior to 112 the hIO development failure of the C32 cell line (Figure 2H). In contrast, C11 derived hIOs harbor the representative cell types of the intestinal epithelium: enterocytes (CDX2+), intestinal stem 113 114 cells (SOX9), enteroendocrine cells (CHGA), goblet cells (UEA-1) and Paneth cells (LYZ) 115 (Figure 2I).

116 Together, these results indicate that C32 behaved differently from the C11 line, and displayed a 117 lower propensity for endoderm differentiation. The C32 cell line therefore was labelled as a 118 hiPSC line that is refractory to endoderm differentiation in our subsequent analyses.

## Hippo signaling is up regulated in the refractory cell line

121 Bulk RNA-seg was performed at Day 1 of DE differentiation to discover genes involved in differential regulation of endodermal propensity at the early phase of germ layer differentiation 122

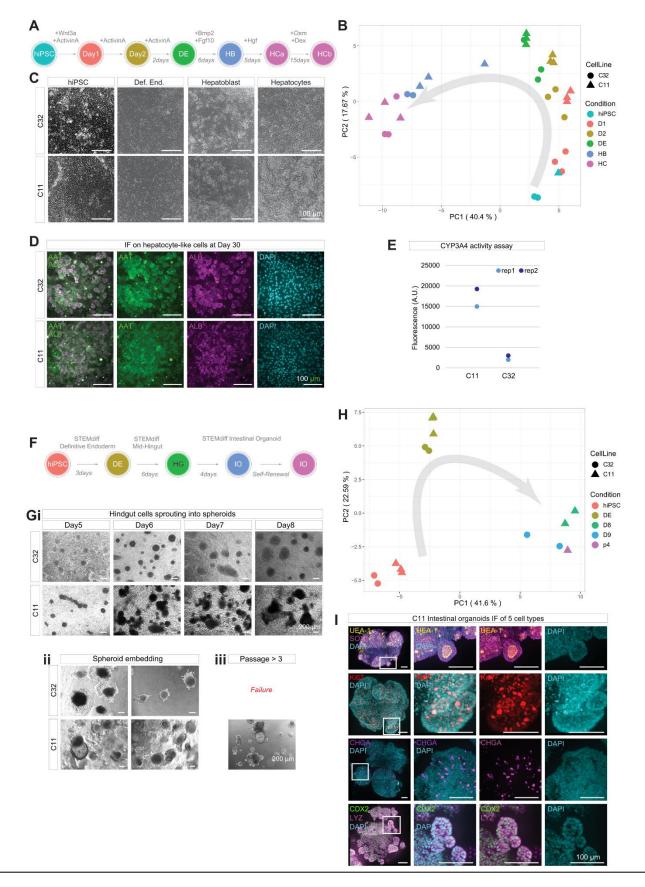


Figure 2 – Low endodermal propensity fails to produce functional tissue: A) Differentiation protocol used to generate hepatocytes from C32 and C11; B) PCA obtained from microfluidic RT-qPCR data on hepatocyte differentiation; C) Brightfield pictures of hepatocytes differentiation; D) Immunostaining images on AAT (green) and ALB (magenta) markers of hepatocytes differentiation; E) Results of fluorescent analysis of CYP3A4 activity; F) Differentiation protocol used to generate intestinal organoids; G) Brightfield pictures of intestinal organoid differentiation at the Hindgut stage (i), spheroid generation stage (ii) and maintenance stage (iii); H) PCA obtained from microfluidic RT-qPCR data on intestinal organoid differentiation; I) Immunostaining of intestinal organoids of C11 cell lines on different cell types of the gut epithelium: Goblet cells (UEA-1), Intestinal Stem cell (SOX9), enteroendocrine cells (CHGA), epithelium (CDX2) and Paneth cells (LYZ) as well as proliferating cells (Ki67). Nuclei are revealed by DAPI.

(gastrulation). Five cell lines were analyzed including two females (C32 and C7) and 3 males (C9, C11, C16). Transcriptomic differences showed that C32 differs significantly from the 4 other cell lines (Supplementary Figure S2B and D), displaying enrichment of transcriptomic signature of mesoderm (circulatory system and heart: RUNX1, VEGFA) and ectoderm (neural: SOX2, POU3F2) (Supplementary Figure S2C) derivatives. Most of the genes associated with gastrulation (e.g. MIXL1, EOMES, MESP1, APLN, DKK1, GATA6, etc...) (Supplementary Figure S2C) were down-regulated in C32. To eliminate the gender bias in the above analysis. C7, an isogenic clone of C32, was analyzed in parallel. The results of this comparison were similar to the global analysis. The differentially expressed genes (DEGs) analysis revealed that C7 expressed genes associated with gastrulation (MIXL1, EOMES, TBXT, SNAI1, CER1) at a higher level, while C32 differentially expressed genes associated with cell adhesion (VIM, EZR, FLNA, FLNC, COL1A1, FN1, ITGA2/3/6) and Hippo signaling (CCN1, CCN2, AMOT, AJUBA, CDH11) (Supplementary Figure S2E). The transcriptomic analysis thus highlights a possible ectoderm and mesoderm bias of the C32 cell line during germ layer differentiation that is in keeping with its lower endodermal propensity. It also indicated a possible role for altered Hippo signaling and cell adhesion in negatively modulating endoderm differentiation.

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## Refractory cell line harbors a unique molecular signature during differentiation of primitive-streak like cells

143 We further investigated three cell lines (i.e., C32, C11 and C16) by single-cell RNAseq (scRNAseq) at 3 time points during differentiation: Day 0 (pluripotency), 1 (peri-gastrulation) and 4 144 145 (definitive endoderm) (Figure 3A). After filtering, 41336 cells were retained for analysis. The 146 tSNE plot (Figure 3B) showed that cells were segregated by time into three major clusters 147 corresponding to each day. Each cluster were further divided into smaller clusters based on their 148 transcriptomic differences (Figure 3C). While C32 cells displayed a unique transcriptomic profile 149 at Day 1, the individual sub-clusters of C32 cells were found within the cell clusters of each of 150 the other cell lines at Day 4 (Figure 3D), albeit present at different abundance, suggesting that 151 the molecular signatures were shared by cells of the three hiPSC lines.

To better appreciate the discrepancy of the cells at Day 1, the identity of single cells was annotated based on a human post-implantation embryo dataset<sup>36</sup>, as Epiblast, Primitive Streak, Nascent Mesoderm, Emergent Mesoderm, Advanced mesoderm and Endoderm (Supplementary Figure S3A and B). Cells of the C32 line retained an Epiblast signature at Day 1 (55% of cells) and did not display a primitive-streak like cell state like the C11 and C16 cell lines (Supplementary Figure S3C and D).

158 Finally, individual gene comparison of cell states across the 4-day differentiation showed C32 159 cells maintained a robust expression of pluripotency-related factors, (SOX2, NANOG, POU5F1). 160 Interestingly, Nodal targets and antagonists, LEFTY1 and LEFTY2, were up-regulated at Day 1 (Figure 3E). Genes associated with germ layer differentiation, MIXL1, LHX1, DKK1, DKK4, and 161 endoderm related genes (GSC, GATA6) were down-regulated. While SOX17 and FOXA2 were 162 not down-regulated, the proportion of endoderm cells in the C32 line was reduced relative to 163 other cell lines (Figure 3E and Supplementary Figure S3D), in agreement with the IHC data. 164 165 Collectively, scRNA-seq, bulk RNA-seq and microfluidic RT-qPCR all pointed at a failure or a 166 delay of the C32 line in differentiating to primitive-streak like cells.

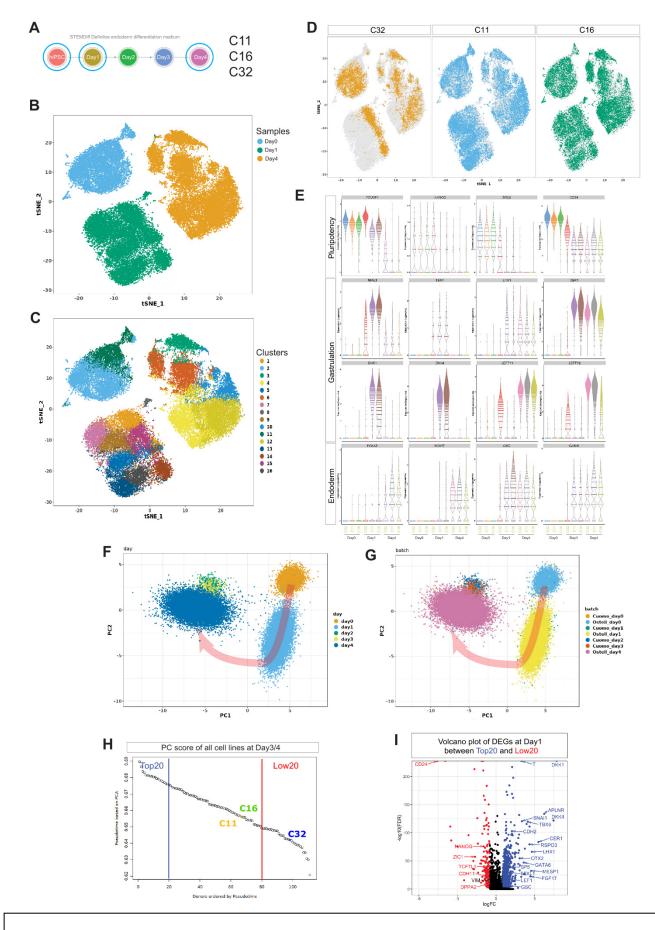


Figure 3 – scRNA-seq demonstrates that C32 is part of low propensity cell lines: A) Definitive Endoderm Differentiation protocol used for C32, C16 and C11. Blue circles highlight the samples selected for scRNA-seq. B) tSNE plot obtained from scRNA-seq data. C) SC3 clustering obtained from scRNA-seq data. D) tSNE plot colored for each cell line. E) Gene expression for each sample. F and G) PCA showing integration of our scRNA-seq data with data from Cuomo et al, F) represents cells grouped for each day; G) grouped for each sample. The pink arrow indicates time progression during differentiation; H) PC1 axis projection of hiPSC at Day 3/4 of DE differentiation representing efficiency of differentiation as pseudotime. I) Differentially Expressed Genes (DEGs) between the Top 20 cell lines (better) (blue) versus the Low 20 (less efficient) cell line (red) represented on a Volcano plot.

## Single-cell transcriptomic analysis as a tool to rank lineage propensity

- 169 To test if the information learned from the scRNA-seq analysis from our cell line cohort may be
- 170 extrapolated to hiPSC lines in general, the scRNA dataset was combined with that of 125 hiPSC
- 171 lines previously profiled for endoderm differentiation in vitro<sup>19</sup> (Figure 3F and G). Each cell line
- 172 was ranked for endoderm propensity based on their PC1 eigenvalue at Day 4 (Figure 3H) as
- 173 described before. The data show that C32 ranks among the lowest 20% propensity cell lines,
- 174 while C16 and C11 ranked higher.

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- 175 Using this classification, the Top 20 cell lines (Top20) and the lowest 20 cell lines (Low20), were
- analyzed for DEGs. This analysis revealed that genes associated with primitive streak formation 176
- were up-regulated in Top20 cell lines (TBXT, DKK1, SNAI1, MIXL1, LHX1, etc...) while Low20 177
- cell lines retained a pluripotent signature (NANOG, DPPA2, ZIC1) (Figure 31). The data infer that 178
- the Low20 lines are less competent for germ layer differentiation and that the C32 characteristics
- 179
- 180 apply to a number of other hiPSCs of low endoderm differentiation propensity.
- 181 We conclude that irrespective of the sequencing technology used (SMART-seg2 vs 10X) and
- 182 the differentiation protocol (homemade versus commercial), single cell data sets can be used to
- 183 rank hiPSC cell lines in terms of endodermal differentiation propensity based on PC1 Eigen
- 184 value score. This in turn provides a useful tool that will enable the identification of cell lines with
- 185 superior differentiation propensity prior to the use of these cells to productively generate the
- 186 endodermal derivatives.

## Refractory hiPSC showed unique proteomic signature

- 188 Although C32 differed from other cell lines at Day 1, the single cell transcriptomic data showed
- 189 little difference between C32 and the two other cell lines (C11 and C16) at Day 0, while cells
- 190 were pluripotent and undifferentiated. To explore other signatures that may reflect inter-line
- 191 differences in endoderm differentiation propensity, the proteome of eleven cell lines was
- 192 analyzed at Day 0 (Supplementary Figure S4). This discovery proteome screen revealed that
- 193 C32 clustered separately from other groups of hiPSC lines and its isogenic counterpart, C7
- 194 clustered with a different group of female cell lines (Supplementary Figure S4A). Compared to
- 195 C7, C32 displayed a higher level of expression of pluripotency-related factors, PODXL and
- 196 FZD7, and downregulation of FN1 (associated with pharyngeal endoderm)<sup>37</sup> (Supplementary
- 197 Figure S4B and C). Of note, PODXL expression is maintained at Day1 of DE differentiation
- 198 (Figure S2E) and is also associated with kidney differentiation, a mesoderm derivative<sup>6</sup>,
- 199 correlating with our previous observation that C32 might be poised for mesoderm differentiation.
- 200 The proteomic signature supports our previous findings that the retention of pluripotency in the
- 201 C32 line contributes to the failure of differentiation towards the endoderm lineage.

## MIXL1 is required for promoting endoderm differentiation

- 203 Since our data of the refractory line C32 showed that dysregulation of MIXL1 expression early
- 204 in lineage differentiation may underpin the low endoderm propensity, we next tested the
- 205 requirement of MIXL1 for endoderm differentiation. To this end, frameshift mutations of MIXL1
- 206 were engineered in C32 and C16 lines by CRISPR editing to generate MIXL1 loss of function
- cell lines: C32-MKO line and C16-MKO line respectively. We validated the introduction of the 207

- MIXL1 gene edits by sequencing the targeted regions and confirmed this did not impact
- 209 pluripotency of these lines (Supplementary Figure S5).
- Separately, the C32 line was engineered by constitutive expression of a dead Cas9, with no
- 211 nuclease activity, linked to VP64, a potent transcriptional activator (dCas9-PVP64)<sup>38,39</sup>. This line
- was genetically modified further to express two sgRNAs that targeted the dCas9-VP64 to the
- 213 promoter of MIXL1, in a doxycycline controllable fashion (C32-Dox)<sup>40</sup>. These two guides
- 214 (sgRNA4 and 7 Figure S6F) displayed the strongest activation of the gene compared to 7 other
- 215 guides when tested in HEK cells (Figure S6G).
- We next quantified *MIXL1* expression in the KO lines and the C32-Dox line with and without
- induction at Day 1 of DE differentiation. No MIXL1 expression can be detected in C32-MKO and
- 218 C16-MKO (Figure 4A and B) relative to C32-Dox cells treated with DMSO (C32-Dox0)
- 219 (Figure 4A and B). Maximal induction of MIXL1 expression was achieved, at a saturating
- concentration of  $2\mu g/mL$  Dox. Beyond which, at  $16\mu g/mL$  Dox, MIXL1 expression was reduced
- possibly due to the toxicity that impacts negatively on mitochondrial gene activity. The levels of
- induced expression of MIXL1 with  $1\mu g/mL$  of Doxycycline, quantified by immunofluorescence,
- were within the physiological range (comparable to C16 at Day 1). Further studies of C32-Dox
- cells were therefore performed at  $1\mu g/mL$  Doxycycline (C32-Dox1) (Figure 4A and B).
- 225 To assess how outcomes of endoderm differentiation were modulated by different levels of
- 226 MIXL1 expression, FOXA2 and SOX17 expression was quantified after 4 days of differentiation.
- 227 Increasing MIXL1 expression in C32-DOX resulted in higher expression of both markers
- 228 (Figure 4C and D), further reinforcing a role of MIXL1 in promoting endoderm differentiation.
- 229 Surprisingly, however, C32-MKO cells displayed FOXA2 and SOX17 expression levels similar
- 230 to C16-MKO and C32-Dox0. This finding suggests that MIXL1 dysregulation may not be the sole
- 231 cause of inefficient endoderm specification and differentiation. However, these results indicate
- that modulation of MIXL1 expression can have an effect on DE formation.

## MIXL1 plays a role in chromatin organization

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- To elucidate the impact of MIXL1 on chromatin accessibility, Assay for Transposase-Accessible
- 235 Chromatin using sequencing (ATAC-seg) was performed on C16 and C16-MKO cell lines at Day
- 1 of DE differentiation, when MIXL1 expression is maximal. Comparing the accessible regions
- 237 (or reads pile-up called as peaks) showed that MIXL1 deletion led to multiple changes in
- 238 chromatin accessibility (Supplementary Figure S6A), and in particular, less closing regions
- 239 (Supplementary Figure S6B), than opening (Supplementary Figure S6C). This observation
- 240 suggests that MIXL1 may be responsible for opening and closing regions during germ layer
- 241 differentiation. To understand the role of these regions, motif discovery was performed on
- 242 differentially accessible chromatin regions. This analysis revealed that peaks with less
- 243 accessibility in MKO lines contain the motifs TAATNNNATTA (PROP1, PHOXA2), which is the
- 244 dual homeobox motif recognized by MIXL1 (Supplementary Figure S6D). In the absence of
- 245 MIXL1, more accessible peaks are associated with TEAD1 and FOXH1 motifs (Supplementary
- 246 Figure S6E). FOXH1 is known as a cofactor of GSC which negatively regulates MIXL1 in the
- 247 mouse<sup>41</sup>. TEAD1 is the transcription factor bound by YAP/TAZ when Hippo signaling is
- inhibited<sup>42</sup>. This is consistent with the observation that the C32 cell line expresses low *MIXL1*

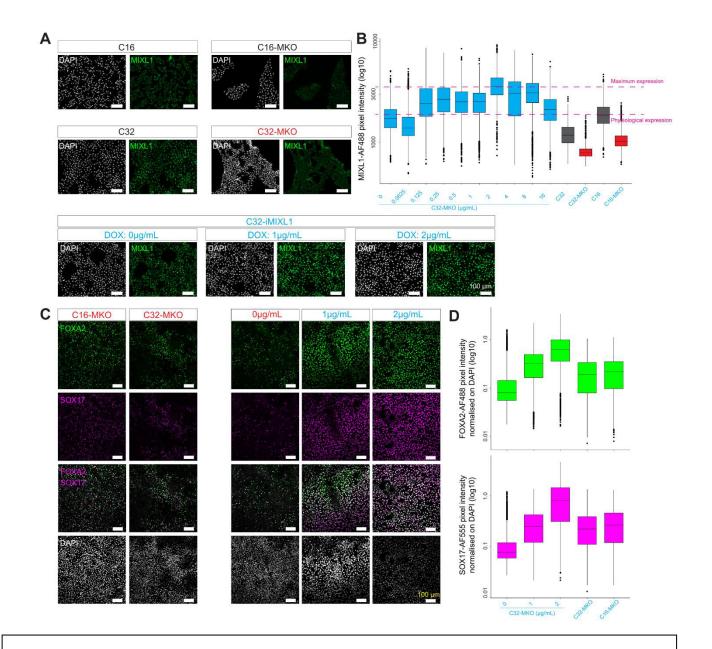


Figure 4 – MIXL1 functional genomic study reveals its role in endodermal differentiation:

A) Immunostaining images on MIXL1 (green) for C16 and C32 either WT or MIXL1-KO (MKO) and C32 with inducible MIXL1 expression under three different concentrations of doxycycline (0, 1 and 2µg/mL) called C32-iMIXL1. Nuclei are revealed by DAPI (white). B) MIXL1 signal intensity normalized on DAPI signal for concentration of doxycycline spanning from 0 to 16µg/mL, WT and MKO conditions. 2 levels are highlighted a physiological level, corresponding to the level of C16 and 1µg/mL of doxycycline and an overexpression level corresponding to 2µg/ml. (n= 3). C) Immunostaining images of FOXA2 (green) and SOX17 (magenta) on Day 4 of DE differentiation in MKO and iMIXL1 cell lines. D) Quantification of FOXA2 and SOX17 immunostaining.

- 250 expression and exhibits up-regulation of YAP/TAZ targets (CCN1, CCN2) (Supplementary
- 251 Figure S2E).
- 252 Collectively the data reveal that MIXL1 may be a pioneer transcription factor involved in
- 253 modulating chromatin accessibility of its targets and possibly influences signaling pathways such
- 254 as Hippo and WNT, as inferred from the TCF3 motifs found in open regions in the C16-MKO
- 255 lines.

#### Physiological levels of MIXL1 activity can rescue the endoderm propensity 256

- of refractory cells in germ layer differentiation. 257
- 258 To assess the function of MIXL1, we used the 2D stem cell micropattern model to elucidate its
- 259 functional attribute in germ layer differentiation (Figure 5A, Supplementary Figure S7 and S8).
- Five cell lines, C32, C32-MKO, C32-Dox, C16 and C16-MKO, were used to generate 260
- 261 micropatterned cultures that recapitulate germ layer formation in response to BMP4<sup>33,43,44</sup>.
- 262 The emergence of primitive streak-like cells was assessed via the immunostaining of TBXT and
- 263 MIXL1 proteins 24h after BMP4 supplementation. In the C32 cell line, similar expression kinetics
- 264 were observed, but was temporally delayed from 48h onwards. At 24h MIXL1 signal was almost
- 265 undetectable (Figure 5B). In the C16 line TBXT and MIXL1 were expressed at peak level at 24h
- 266 followed by decreased expression at 48h. Some cells were co-expressing both proteins (Figure
- 267 5C). At 48h, DE differentiation was assessed by FOXA2 and SOX17 expression.
- 268 FOXA2+/SOX17+ cells were sparse in the C16 line (Figure 5F). This low propensity for DE cells
- in micropattern has already been documented<sup>33,43,45</sup>. However, no double positive cells were 269
- detected in C32 line (Figure 5F). Instead, separate domains of FOXA2+ cells (inner ring) and 270
- 271 SOX17+ cells (outer ring) were identified. These results from the C16 and C32 lines confirm that
- 272 a change in culture format could not rescue the phenotype of refractory endoderm differentiation
- 273 of the C32 line.
- 274 MKO lines were analyzed similarly and MIXL1 could not be detected in both KO lines, and TBXT
- 275 did not appear to be affected in its spatiotemporal pattern (Figure 5D and E). Regarding DE
- differentiation, the main effect of the loss of MIXL1 activity was the reduced population of 276
- 277 FOXA2+ cells (Figure 5F).
- 278 To elucidate the effect of induced MIXL1 activity on DE differentiation of the incompetent iPSC
- 279 line, the C32Dox lines were cultured in micropatterns under BMP4 condition with induction by
- 280 DOX at 2 doxycycline concentration: 1µg/mL, corresponding to physiological condition and
- 281 2µg/mL, a condition where MIXL1 is overexpressed. Endoderm differentiation at Day 2 of
- differentiation of induced C32Dox line (C32-iMIXL1), compared with C32 line (parental, low 282
- 283 propensity line) and C16 line (high propensity line), was assessed by the presence of SOX17+
- 284 and FOXA2+ cells in the micropatterns. C32-induced cells displayed increased number and
- 285 density of SOX17+ and FOXA2+ cells (Figure 5G, H) compared to C32 line and C16 line (Figure
- 5F) and the control condition without doxycycline. Reconstitution of physiological levels of MIXL1 286
- 287 activity therefore restored the endoderm propensity of iPSCs that are inherently incompetent for
- 288 endoderm differentiation. In addition, increasing the doxycycline concentration increased the
- 289 level of double positive cells in the micropatterned cultures indicating a correlation between
- 290 MIXL1 level and DE cells formation.

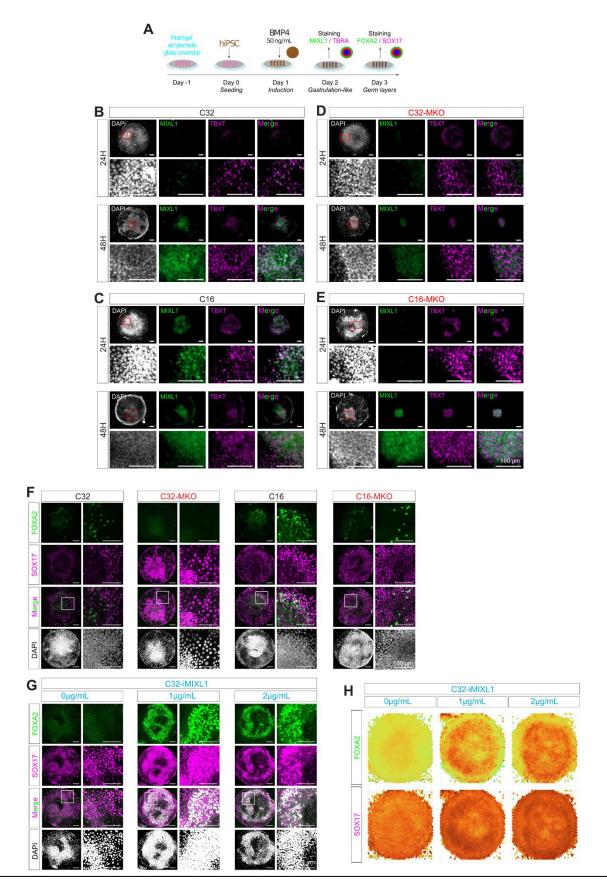


Figure 5 – MIXL1 induction rescues DE phenotype in a pseudo-embryo model. A) Protocol to establish stem cell-micropattern model of germ layer differentiation; B to E) Immunostaining images of MIXL1 and TBXT at 24h and 48h after BMP4 induction on C32 (B), C16 (C), C32-MKO (D) and C16-MKO (E). F and G) Immunostaining images of FOXA2 (green) and SOX17 (magenta) at 48h after BMP4 induction on C32, C32-MKO, C16 and C16-MKO (G) and C32-iMIXL1 under three different concentrations of doxycycline (0, 1 and 2μg/mL). H) Average signaling for FOXA2 and SOX17 measured on micropatterns (n= 10).

## Discussion

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293 In this study, isogenic human induced pluripotent stem cell (hiPSC) lines were analyzed and 294 compared for their propensity in generating definitive endoderm that is capable of progressing 295 to functional endoderm derivatives, here tested by the formation of intestinal organoids and 296 hepatocytes (See Figure 2). One cell line of the cohort (C32) was found to be inefficient in 297 differentiation towards the endoderm lineage. The low propensity for endoderm derivatives is 298 accompanied by a bias toward the mesoderm lineage. Our results suggest that during germ 299 layer differentiation, C32 activates the genetic program of vascularization and heart formation 300 more efficiently than the rest of the cohort (See Supplementary Figure S2C). In addition, the C32 hiPSC line has been used in a previous study to produce kidney organoid<sup>6</sup> supporting the 301 302 potential mesoderm bias of the C32 cell line.

303 We sought to determine molecular markers of endoderm propensity of hiPSC lines, at the 304 pluripotency and early exit stages. Transcriptomic and proteomic analyses did not reveal evident 305 bias in lineage propensity of the refractory line C32, except for a higher level of expression of some pluripotency-related factors at the proteomic level (Supplementary Figure S4). The higher 306 pluripotency level of C32 may underpin the poor performance in endoderm differentiation of this 307 308 cell line. To gain a holistic view of the differentiation potential of isogenic hiPSC lines, 4 groups 309 of isogenic hiPSC lines (2 males and 2 females) were subjected to deep transcriptomic analysis. 310 This again highlighted the failure of C32 in activating the gastrulation genetic program properly. In other words, C32 differentiation was inefficient and delayed in initiating germ layer formation

In other words, C32 differentiation was inefficient and delayed in initiating germ layer formation compared to its isogenic clone C7 and the rest of the cohort.

The single cell transcriptomic data was analyzed in conjunction with the transcriptomic data of a

The single cell transcriptomic data was analyzed in conjunction with the transcriptomic data of a previous large scale study<sup>19</sup> surveying 125 hiPSC lines during definitive endoderm 314 315 differentiation. Despite the use of different protocols (homemade medium versus commercial kit for the present study) and sequencing chemistry (SMART-seg2 versus 10X Chromium for the 316 317 present study), the data were remarkably comparable. We found that the cell lines with the 318 lowest differentiation score at the end of the DE differentiation, have a significantly low 319 expression of genes involved in gastrulation including MIXL1. These results further validated our 320 microfluidic RT-qPCR findings and enabled the identification of a gene panel and novel tool for 321 ranking hiPSC lines for the propensity of endoderm differentiation and ability to generate mature 322 endoderm tissues.

The transcriptomic survey of the cohort revealed that the gene *MIXL1* is expressed at a low level in endoderm-incompetent cell lines, and this is corroborated via cross comparison of the aforementioned study<sup>19</sup>. Our endoderm differentiation data of stem cell-derived micropattern further points to a causal relationship between the expression of *MIXL1* and efficiency of DE differentiation. We proposed that *MIXL1* is a useful biomarker for screening human pluripotent stem cells for competency of endoderm differentiation by quantification of *MIXL1* expression in cells at 24h of directed differentiation.

The ATAC-seq data pointed to a possible role for MIXL1 in regulating chromatin accessibility. Of note, the target regions opened in the MIXL1-KO cell line are strongly enriched for TEAD1 binding sites. TEAD1 is a transcription factor involved in Hippo signaling<sup>42</sup>. This data, when combined with our observation that Hippo target genes (e.g., *CCN1*, *CCN2*) are more strongly activated in the refractory C32 line (Supplementary Figure S2E), suggests an important

- relationship between chromatin status and the Hippo pathway that is regulated by MIXL1.
- 336 Interestingly, the closed chromatin region in the MIXL1-KO line mainly contains the dual
- homeobox binding sites TAATNNNATTA, recognized by MIXL1. This suggests that MIXL1 may
- be involved in regulating accessibility to its own transcriptional targets.
- 339 Our study has provided a comprehensive survey of endoderm differentiation in an isogenic
- cohort and provides a framework for future study of the molecular mechanisms that underpin
- 341 endoderm specification during germ layer differentiation of pluripotent stem cells and in
- 342 embryonic development.

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## Acknowledgments

- We would like to acknowledge the support of Advanced Imaging for all imaging and Vector and
- 345 Genome Engineering facilities at CMRI for the help in generating the KO lines. The Advanced
- 346 Microscopy Facility at CMRI for the image generation. Prof. Kristopher Kilian and his team for
- sharing the micropattern protocols and training. This work was supported by the National Health
- and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) (Project Grant ID1127976). PPLT was supported by
- 349 Senior Principal Research Fellowship (NHMRC Grant ID110751)

### **Author contributions**

- PO, EW and PPLT conceived of the study. PO, AW, Ni.S, PPLT designed experimentation. PO
- and Ni.S were the primary scientist and completed most of the cell and molecular biology, live
- and fixed imaging, and biochemical analysis. AQ, Jy.S, XBL assisted with molecular biology, live
- and fixed imaging, and biochemical analysis. HK and Ni.S completed the RNA-seq and scRNA-
- seq and NA performed the associated analysis. SC helped with preliminary analysis. Ni.S
- 356 completed ATAC-seq and Na.S the associated analysis. Ja.S, IP, GC and MG completed all
- mass spectrometry and associated analysis. PO, EW and PPLT secured funding. PO completed
- 358 experimental analysis and interpretation and created the figures with assistance from NA and
- 359 PPLT. PO, Ni.S and PPLT wrote the manuscript with assistance from all authors.

## Conflict of interest

361 We the authors declare no conflict of interest

## Figures Legend

#### 363 Figure 1 – Definitive endoderm differentiation heterogeneity among isogenic lines:

- A) Differentiation protocol used to generate definitive endoderm (DE) cells; B) Immunostaining
- images of DE cells on FOXA2 (green) and SOX17 (magenta), scale bar = 100µm; C) Signal
- intensity measurement of immunostaining of panel B, n= 3. **D)** PCA obtained from microfluidic
- 367 RT-qPCR data on DE differentiation time courses. Each day is represented by the same color
- as Figure 1A (inserted on top left). Purple squares highlight C32 at Day 4 of DE differentiation;

- 369 E) PC1 axis projection of hiPSC at Day 4 of DE differentiation representing efficiency of
- differentiation as pseudotime. C32 is highlighted in purple. F) PCA obtained from microfluidic
- 371 RT-qPCR data on DE differentiation, identical dataset to figure 1D, but plotted for each day. C32
- is highlighted in purple; **G)** Genes' contribution to PC1 and PC2 axis of the Day 1 PCA of Figure
- 2F. The position of the arrows correlates with the position of the samples on the PCA at Day 1.
- 374 Colour scale is between 0 and 1. A score of 1 indicates maximum contribution of a particular
- gene to PC1. H) Genes' expression time course during DE differentiation. C32 is highlighted in
- 376 purple. p.value: \* < 0.05, \*\* < 0.01, \*\*\* < 0.001.

#### Figure 2 – Low endodermal propensity fails to produce functional tissue:

- 378 A) Differentiation protocol used to generate hepatocytes from C32 and C11; B) PCA obtained
- from microfluidic RT-qPCR data on hepatocyte differentiation; **C)** Brightfield pictures of
- hepatocytes differentiation; **D)** Immunostaining images on AAT (green) and ALB (magenta)
- markers of hepatocytes differentiation; **E)** Results of fluorescent analysis of CYP3A4 activity; **F)**
- Differentiation protocol used to generate intestinal organoids; G) Brightfield pictures of intestinal
- organoid differentiation at the Hindgut stage (i), spheroid generation stage (ii) and maintenance
- 384 stage (iii); H) PCA obtained from microfluidic RT-qPCR data on intestinal organoid
- differentiation; I) Immunostaining of intestinal organoids of C11 cell lines on different cell types
- of the gut epithelium: Goblet cells (UEA-1), Intestinal Stem cell (SOX9), enteroendocrine cells
- 387 (CHGA), epithelium (CDX2) and Paneth cells (LYZ) as well as proliferating cells (Ki67). Nuclei
- 388 are revealed by DAPI.

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## Figure 3 – scRNA-seq demonstrates that C32 is part of low propensity cell lines:

- 390 A) Definitive Endoderm Differentiation protocol used for C32, C16 and C11. Blue circles
- highlight the samples selected for scRNA-seq. **B)** tSNE plot obtained from scRNA-seq data. **C)**
- SC3 clustering obtained from scRNA-seq data. **D)** tSNE plot colored for each cell line. **E)** Gene
- 393 expression for each sample. **F and G)** PCA showing integration of our scRNA-seq data with data
- from Cuomo et al, **F)** represents cells grouped for each day; **G)** grouped for each sample. The
- pink arrow indicates time progression during differentiation; H) PC1 axis projection of hiPSC at
- 396 Day 3/4 of DE differentiation representing efficiency of differentiation as pseudotime. I)
- 397 Differentially Expressed Genes (DEGs) between the Top 20 cell lines (better) (blue) versus the
- 398 Low 20 (less efficient) cell line (red) represented on a Volcano plot.

## Figure 4 – MIXL1 functional genomic study reveals its role in endodermal differentiation:

- 400 **A)** Immunostaining images on MIXL1 (green) for C16 and C32 either WT or MIXL1-KO (MKO)
- and C32 with inducible MIXL1 expression under three different concentrations of doxycycline (0,
- 402 1 and 2μg/mL) called C32-iMIXL1. Nuclei are revealed by DAPI (white). **B)** MIXL1 signal intensity
- 403 normalized on DAPI signal for concentration of doxycycline spanning from 0 to 16μg/mL, WT
- and MKO conditions. 2 levels are highlighted a physiological level, corresponding to the level of
- C16 and 1ug/mL of doxycycline and an overexpression level corresponding to 2μg/ml. (n= 3).
- 406 C) Immunostaining images of FOXA2 (green) and SOX17 (magenta) on Day 4 of DE
- 407 differentiation in MKO and iMIXL1 cell lines. D) Quantification of FOXA2 and SOX17
- 408 immunostaining.

#### Figure 5 – MIXL1 induction rescues DE phenotype in a pseudo-embryo model.

- 410 A) Protocol to establish stem cell-micropattern model of germ layer differentiation; B to E)
- Immunostaining images of MIXL1 and TBXT at 24h and 48h after BMP4 induction on C32 (B),
- C16 (C), C32-MKO (D) and C16-MKO (E). F and G) Immunostaining images of FOXA2 (green)
- and SOX17 (magenta) at 48h after BMP4 induction on C32, C32-MKO, C16 and C16-MKO (G)
- and C32-iMIXL1 under three different concentrations of doxycycline (0, 1 and 2µg/mL). H)
- 415 Average signaling for FOXA2 and SOX17 measured on micropatterns (n= 10).

## Resource availability

#### Lead contacts

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- Further information and requests for resources and reagents should be directed to and will be
- 419 fulfilled by the lead contacts, Patrick Tam (p.tam@cmri.org.au) and Pierre Osteil
- 420 (pierre.osteil@uca.fr).

## Material availability

- The materials used in this study are listed in the key resources table. Materials generated by our
- laboratory in this study are available on request, however, there are restrictions to the availability
- of human iPSC lines due to a Material Transfer Agreement.

## Data and Code availability

- All raw sequencing data can be found on Gene Expression Omnibus under the accession number GSE260552, GSE260553, GSE260554 and are available as of the date of publication.
- The raw mass spectrometry datasets generated in this study are available via PRIDE: PXD048788, http://www.ebi.ac.uk/pride/archive/projects/PXD048788
- 431 ΑII microfluidic RT-qPCR data can be found on the GitHub page 432 (https://github.com/PierreOsteil/ScriptsForOsteilEtAl2024) and are available as of the 433 date of publication.
- All original codes are available as of the date of publication and can be found on the following GitHub page: https://github.com/PierreOsteil/ScriptsForOsteilEtAl2024.

  Bioinformatic source codes and their corresponding DOIs are listed in the key resources table
- Any additional information required to reanalyze the data reported in this paper is available from the lead contact upon request.t

## **Experimental Model and Subject Details**

#### 441 Cell Lines

- A cohort of 11 human iPSC lines composed of 2 to 3 isogenic cell lines from 4 patients (2 males
- 443 and 2 females) was provided by the Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology

444 (AIBN), University of Queensland. Briefly, hiPSC lines derived from fibroblast cells or foreskin

445 tissue were generated using a non-integrating episomal reprogramming system (oriP/EBNA1-

based pCEP4 episomal vectors pE-P4EO2SCK2MEN2L and pEP4EO2SET2K from Addgene) 446

447 carrying OCT4, SOX2, KLF4 and CMYC. All lines maintained a normal karyotype and were

capable of forming teratomas that contained derivatives of the three germ layers 34,35. For routine 448

449 maintenance, hiPSCs were cultured in mTeSR1 (STEMCELL Technologies) on six-well plates

450 precoated with hESC-qualified Matrigel (Corning). The culture plates were incubated at 37°C

451 and 5% CO2. The medium was changed daily. The colonies morphology was evaluated under

an inverted microscope. Cells were passaged at 70-80% confluency with ReLeSR(STEMCELL 452

Technologies) at a split ratio of 1/5 to 1/30 depending on the cell line, into a new well of a 6-well 453

454 plate. Experiments were approved by the Sydney Children's Hospitals Network Human

455 Research Ethics Committee under the reference: HREC/17/SCHN/167.

## **Method details**

## **CRISPR-KO** engineering

#### gRNA design and cloning

- Single S. pvogens Cas9 gRNA (GCGCCGCGTTTCCAGCGTACCGG) targeting MIXL1 exon 1 459
- was designed using Geneious software, (http://www.geneious.com<sup>46</sup>) based on the presence of 460
- a canonical NGG PAM (underlined in gRNA sequence) at the target site. Potential off-target sites 461
- were identified using Geneious software, (http://www.geneious.com<sup>46</sup>). gRNA was cloned in 462
- 463 Addgene plasmid 62988 following adopted protocol from Ran et al<sup>47</sup>. Oligos used for cloning
- 464 were:

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- 465 Forward: 5' CACCGCGCGCGTTTCCAGCGTAC
- 466 Reverse: 5' AAACGTACGCTGGAAACGCGGCGC.

#### 467 Nucleofection, clone selection and sequencing

468 Cells were transfected using a plasmid expressing Cas9 protein and gRNA targeting MIXL1 exon

1 following Amaxa<sup>™</sup> 4D Transfection protocol for 20 µl Nucleocuvette® Strip using P3 Primary

Cell 4D-Nucleofector® X Kit with program CA-137. After transfection cells were plated into 10

cm dish, coated with hESC-qualified Matrigel (BD Biosciences), prefilled with mTESR medium

472 (Stem Cell Technologies) mixed with 100% CloneR (Stem Cell Technologies). Twenty-four

473 hours post transfection cells were puromycin (Thermo Fisher Scientific) selected with

concentration of  $1\mu g/ml$  for the next 48 hours. Following puromycin selection media was

changed every day and the percentage of CloneR (Stem Cell Technologies) in media was 475

reduced during the next days as single cells were dividing and started forming individual

476 477 colonies. Single colonies were picked and transferred individually in a single well of a 96 well

478 plate where they were grown to be split and frozen for further sequencing analysis. Cells were

detached using ReLeSR (Stem Cell Technologies) and clones were frozen as cell aggregates

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480 in CryoStor® CS10 (Stem Cell Technologies). Clone selection, screening of the CRISPR/Cas9 481

clones for editing events and validation of allelic deletions of individual clones was done following

protocol from Bauer et al. 48 for genomic deletions in mammalian cells. The PCR was designed 482

to amplify the sequence flanking the gRNA on exon 1 targeting location with the expected 483

amplicon of 800bp. PCR analysis for the presence of indels were done with primers: Forward:

485 5'GGAGGGTATAAGTGCGGCC Reverse: 5'CCTCATCTGTGTCTTCTTCCCG

486 All PCR reactions were done in  $50\mu$ l volume using Q5 high fidelity polymerase (NEB) following 487 NEB Q5 high fidelity PCR protocol. In short, PCR reaction mix was made by mixing 100ng of 488 genomic DNA sample from each clone with  $10\mu$ l of 5xQ5 reaction Buffer,  $1\mu$ l of 10mM dNTPs, 489  $2.5\mu l$  of each (forward and reverse) 10  $\mu M$  primer,  $10\mu l$  of 5xQ5 High GC Enhancer,  $0.5\mu l$  of Q5 490 Polymerase and topped up to 50 µl with H<sub>2</sub>O. PCR reaction started with initial denaturation with 491 temperature of 98°C for 30s followed by 34 cycles of 10s denaturation at 98°C, annealing at 492 60°C for 20s and extension at 72°C for 20s ending with final extension at 72°C for 5min. PCR 493 reaction was run on 1.5% agarose gel where expected amplicon of 800bp for each analyze clone 494 was detected. In total, 43 samples were separately amplified by PCR and analyzed by 495 sequencing for the presence of indels at the exon 1 targeted site. Next, sequenced clones were 496 analyzed for genome editing and indel percentages were calculated via TIDE<sup>49</sup> using a control 497 chromatogram for comparison. Decomposition windows, left boundaries, and indel ranges were optimized to have the highest alignment possible. After TIDE analysis 11 clones were selected 498 499 for validation of biallelic deletion clones for targeted genomic region of exon 1, which was done following standard protocol from Bauer et al.48 500

## **Differentiation protocols**

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#### Definitive endoderm differentiation and characterization

503 For direct differentiation into Definitive Endoderm, the cells were subject to induction using STEMdiff Definitive Endoderm kit (STEMCELL Technologies) for 4 days, following 504 505 manufacturer's protocol. Briefly, cells were passaged into single cells with StemProAccutaseCell 506 Dissociation Reagent (Life Technologies) and seeded with mTeSR1 containing Y-27632 dihydrochloride Rock Inhibitor (Tocris, Cat. No. 1245). After 24 hours, the cells are washed with 507 PBS and then cultured for 4 days in STEMdiff Definitive Endoderm Basal medium with 508 509 Supplements A and B for the first day and then Supplement B only for the subsequent 3 days, 510 with daily medium changes. Samples were harvested daily for RNA and Protein extraction (n=3).

To characterise the definitive endoderm, cells were seeded onto glass coverslips coated with 511 hESC-qualified Matrigel (Corning) before treating with STEMdiff™ Definitive Endoderm kit 512 513 (STEMCELL) as described above. Cells were fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde in PBS at RT for 514 20 min. They were washed with PBS twice and then permeabilized with 0.1% Triton X-100 515 (Merck) in dPBS (Gibco) (PBST) at RT for 5min. The cells were blocked with 3% bovine serum 516 albumin (Merck Aldrich) in PBST at room temperature for 1 hour. They were incubated with 517 primary antibody at 4°C overnight (FOXA2 (Abcam) 1:300, SOX17 (R&D Systems) 1:20). Cells were washed with dPBS three times, then incubated with corresponding secondary antibodies 518 519 at RT for 1 hour. The cell nuclei were stained with DAPI (1µg/ml) (Thermo Fisher Scientific) in 520 dPBS for 10 min at RT, and then washed three times with dPBS. Cells were mounted with 521 Fluoromount-G (Thermo Fisher Scientific) and imaged on Ziess Axio Imager Z2 widefield 522 microscope.

#### Human Intestinal Organoids differentiation and characterization

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524 hiPSC-derived intestinal organoids were formed using the STEMdiffIntestinal Organoid Kit 525 (StemCell Technologies), following the manufacturer's protocol. Briefly, cells were passaged as clumps using ReLeSR (StemCell Technologies). Once 80-90% confluency was reached, 526 527 differentiation was initiated with DE Medium (STEMdiffEndoderm Basal Medium plus 528 STEMdiffDefinitive Endoderm Supplement CJ) for 3 days, with daily medium changes. 529 Subsequent mid-hindgut differentiation was induced with MH Medium (STEMdiffEndoderm 530 Basal Medium plus STEMdiffGastrointestinal Supplement PK and STEMdiffGastrointestinal 531 Supplement UB) for 6 days, with daily medium changes. Free-floating mid-/hindgut spheroids. 532 collected at 24-hour intervals within the MH Medium treatment, were embedded in Matrigel 533 (Corning) in wells of NunclonDelta surface 24-well plate (Thermo Fisher Scientific), overlaid with 534 STEMdiffIntestinal Organoid Growth Medium (STEMdiffIntestinal Organoid Basal Medium plus 535 STEMdiffIntestinal Organoid Supplement (StemCell Technologies) and GlutaMAX (Gibco)), performing medium change every 3 - 4 days, incubating at 37°C with 5% CO<sub>2</sub>. After 7 - 10 days 536 537 of incubation, cultures were passaged. Briefly, all plasticware were pre-wetted with Anti-538 Adherence Rinsing Solution (StemCell Technologies). Matrigel domes containing organoids 539 were broken manually by pipetting up and down with cold DMEM/F-12 (Gibco), seeding 40-80 540 organoid fragments per 50μl Matrigel dome.

Organoids were removed from Matrigel similar to that described for splitting organoids above and were fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde in PBS at RT for 30 min. They were washed with PBS twice and then permeabilised with 0.1% Triton X-100 (Merck) in dPBS (Gibco) (PBST) at RT for 1 hour. The organoids were blocked with CAS-Block (Thermo Fisher Scientific) for 90min and then incubated with primary antibody (Sox9 (Merck) 1:500, Ki67 (Abcam) 1:250, CHGA (Novus Biologicals) 1:200, CDX2 (Biogenex) 1:250, Lysozyme (Dako) 1:200) overnight at 4°C. Organoids were washed with PBST four times, then incubated with corresponding secondary antibodies and stain (DAPI (1  $\mu$ g/ml) (Thermo Fisher Scientific) for nuclei in all samples and UEA-1 (Vector Laboratories) 1:200, for select organoids) in CAS-Block at RT for 3 hours. The organoids were then washed four times with PBST, followed by clearing in FUNGI solution (50% (v/v) glycerol, 9.4% (v/v) dH<sub>2</sub>O, 10.6M Tris base, 1.1mM EDTA, 2.5M fructose and 2.5M urea) for 40min. Organoids were imaged using a  $\mu$ -slide (Ibidi) on Zeiss Cell Observer Spinning Disc confocal microscope.

#### Hepatocytes differentiation and characterization

555 hiPSC lines were differentiated toward hepatocytes following the protocol from Baxter et al.<sup>50</sup> 556 Briefly, cells were directed into Stage 1a/definitive endoderm-like cells by culturing in RPMI 557 media containing 1mM L-glutamine, 0.5% FBS, 100ng/mL Activin-A and 25ng/mL Wnt3a for 2 558 days, followed by Stage 1b/definitive endoderm-like cells by culturing in RPMI media containing 559 1mM I-Glutamine, 0.5% FBS and 100ng/mL Activin-A for a further 2 days. Stage 2/hepatoblast-560 like cells was initiated by incubating for a further 6 days with Hepatocyte culture medium (HCM) 561 containing 20ng/mL BMP2 and 30 ng/mL Fgf4. Hepatocyte-like cells were made by further incubating the cultures in Stage 3a media (HCM containing 20ng/mL Hepatocyte Growth Factor 562 (Peprotech)) for 5 days followed by a further 15 days in Stage 2b media (HCM containing 10 563 μg/mL Oncostatin M (R&D Systems Cat No. 295-OM) and 10nM dexamethasone). 564

11 and C32, by incubation with P450-Glo™ CYP3A4 assay reagent (Promega). The analysis was performed according to manufacturer recommendation.

## Micropatterns preparation

#### Micropattern chip fabrication

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Micropattern chip fabrication was conducted using the protocol of Lee et al.<sup>51</sup>, with specific modification and optimization. In brief, coverslips were sonicated in 70% ethanol for 15min and in deionized water for 15min. The clean coverslips were sequentially incubated in 0.5% (3aminopropyl)triethoxysilane (APTS) (Merck) for 3min, 0.5% glutaraldehyde (Merck, Cat. No. G6257) for 30min. After air drying, the coverslips were deposited on a 20 µL drop made of 10% acrylamide (Merck), 0.87% bisacrylamide (Merck), 0.1% ammonium persulfate (Merck, Cat. No. A3678) and 0.1% N,N,N',N'-Tetramethylethylenediamine (Merck), to make the gel at a stiffness of 100KPa. After the stiffness droplet was semi-solidified, the whole system was submerged into 70% ethanol, resulting in a smooth polyacrylamide gel forming. Gelled coverslips were sequentially coated with 64% hydrazine hydrate (Fisher Scientific) for 1h and 2% glacial acetic acid (Merck) for 1h. To generate polydimethylsiloxane (PDMS) stamp, SYLGARD™ 184 Silicone Elastomer Curing Agent and Base (Dow) were mixed at a 1:10 ratio before loading to the stamp mold, provided by the Kilian Lab at the University of New South Wales. Next, the solidified PDMS stamp was coated with 25µg/mL vitronectin (Life Technologies) and 3.5 mg/mL sodium periodate (Merck) for 1h. After air-drying the stamp, patterned vitronectin was stamped onto the gelled coverslip at 0.343N for 1min. Stamped gels were stored overnight in PBS + 1% Penicillin-Streptomycin at 4°C.

#### Germ layer differentiation on micropatterns and analysis

Differentiation protocol was adapted from Warmflash et al.44 Since the micropatterned chip generation required many hands-on manipulations, all culture media were supplemented with 1% Penicillin-Streptomycin, hiPSCs were seeded as single cells to micropattern chip at a density of 2.5x10<sup>5</sup> cells/cm<sup>2</sup> with 10μM Y-27632 ROCK inhibitor in mTeSR Plus supplemented 1% Penicillin-Streptomycin into a total volume of 1mL per well of a 24-well plate. At about 80% confluency, germ layer differentiation was induced by adding 50 ng/mL BMP4 (R&D) in mTeSR1. The cells grown on micropatterns were washed with PBS, fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde in PBS at RT for 20 min. They were washed with PBS twice and then permeabilised with 0.1% Triton X-100 (Merck) in dPBS (Gibco) (PBST) at RT for 1 hour. The cells were blocked with 3% bovine serum albumin (Merck) in PBST at room temperature for 1 hour. They were incubated with primary antibody at 4°C overnight (MIXL1 (Abcam) 1:50, T/Brachyury (Santa Cruz) 1:50, FOXA2 (Abcam) 1:300, SOX17(R&D Systems) 1:20). Cells were washed with PBST three times, then incubated with corresponding secondary antibodies at RT for 1 hour. The cell nuclei were stained with DAPI (1 μg/ml) (Thermo Fisher Scientific) in dPBS for 10 min at RT, and then washed twice more with PBS. Cells were mounted with Fluoromount-G (Thermo Fisher Scientific). Micropatterned coverslips were imaged on Zeiss AiryScan LSM880 confocal microscope. All image analysis was performed using a custom macro. The nuclei from micropatterned images taken were segmented using the StarDist method<sup>52</sup> via Fiji software<sup>53</sup> using default parameters (except probability/score threshold = 0.7) and the versatile (fluorescent nuclei).pb model. R

606 software was used with a custom script where target protein immunofluorescence was

normalized to the DAPI intensity of the same cell.

## Microfluidic RT-qPCR preparation and analysis

#### RNA extraction

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- 610 Snap frozen cell pellets had total RNA extracted using ISOLATE II RNA mini kit (Bioline)
- following manufacturer's instructions. Briefly, samples were lysed, homogenized and passed
- through a spin column containing a silica membrane to which the RNA binds. DNase 1 digestion
- eliminated potential genomic DNA contamination and the preparation was washed to remove
- impurities such as cellular debris and salts. The purified RNA was eluted with RNase free water
- and total RNA concentration was determined using Nanodrop ND-1000 Spectrophotometer
- 616 (ThermoFisher Scientific). RNA was used either for Microfluidic RT-qPCR or RNA-sequencing.

#### 617 **cDNA** synthesis and preparation

- Total RNA was adjusted to a concentration of 200ng/ $\mu$ l. A  $5\mu$ l reaction mix was prepared
- composing of  $1\mu$ l Reverse Transcription Master Mix (Fluidigm),  $3\mu$ l of RNase free water and  $1\mu$ l
- of RNA and incubated in a thermocycler using the following conditions: 25°C for 5min, 42°C for
- 621 30min and 85°C for 5min.

#### 622 cDNA preamplification

- 623  $3.75\mu$ l of preamplification mix (comprising  $105.6\mu$ l of Preamp MasterMix (Fluidigm),  $52\mu$ l of 100
- $\mu$ M pooled primer and 237.6 $\mu$ l DNAse/RNAse free water) and 1.25 $\mu$ l of cDNA sample was added
- into each well of a 96 well plate and incubated as follows: 95°C for 2min then 10 cycles of 95°C
- 626 for 15secand 60°C for 4min.

#### 627 **cDNA clean-up**

- 628 cDNA clean-up was performed by adding  $2\mu$ l of the following mix:  $168\mu$ l DNase free water,  $24\mu$ l
- 629 10x Exo1 reaction buffer and  $48\mu$ l Exonuclease I (New England Biolabs), into each well and
- incubating in a thermocycler for 30min at 37°C followed by 15min at 80°C. Samples were diluted
- 10x with low EDTA TE buffer.

#### Primer and sample set-up

- 633 A sample mix was prepared as follows (per 96-well plate): 495μl of 2X SsoFast EvaGreen
- SuperMix with low ROX (Biorad) and 49.5 $\mu$ l 25X DNA Binding Dye (Fluidigm). 4.95 $\mu$ l sample
- mix was added with  $4.05\mu$ l of diluted sample. Primers were prepared in the following mix (per
- 636 96-well plate): 450μl 2X Assay Loading Reagent (Fluidigm) and 405μl low EDTA TE buffer. 105μl
- of primer mix was added with  $0.45\mu$ l combined forward and reverse primers. Samples and primer
- 638 mixes were loaded onto a 96.96 Dynamic Array IFC plate (Fluidigm) and run on the Biomark
- 639 System.

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## ATAC-seq samples preparation and analysis

#### **Cell Preparation**

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hiPSC were collected at Day1 of the DE diff protocol (STEMDiff) and were processed following <sup>54</sup>. Briefly, 5 x 10<sup>4</sup> cells were collected at Day 1 of DE differentiation and lysed in cold lysis buffer (10 mM Tris·Cl, pH 7.4, 10 mM NaCl, 3 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.1% (v/v) Igepal CA-630). Intact nuclei were separated by centrifugation at 500xg and immediately digested in transposase mix containing 25μl 2x Tagment DNA buffer, 2.5μl Tagment DNA enzyme I (Illumina) and 22.5μl nuclease-free water for 30min at 37°C. Digested chromatin fragments were then purified using the MinElute PCR Purification Kit (Qiagen), according to manufacturer's instructions. The fragments of DNA were then pre-amplified by adding  $10\mu$ L purified DNA sample,  $10\mu$ L RNase-free water,  $2.5\mu$ L of each primer (Where each reaction had non-barcoded primer "Ad1\_noMix" and one barcoded primer 'Ad2.1' - 'Ad2.9' added) and 25µL NEBNext High-Fidelity 2x PCR Master Mix (NEB) and was run under the following conditions: 72°C for 5min, 98°C for 30secand then 5 cycles of 98°C for 10sec, 63°C for 30sec and 72°C for 1min. The number of additional cycles to run was calculated by running a RT-qPCR side reaction - a reaction mixture containing 5µL of the preamplified PCR product, 3.9μL nuclease-free water, 0.25μL of each primer, 0.6μl 25x SYBR Green and 5µL NEBNext High-Fidelity 2x PCR Master Mix was run under the following conditions: 98°C for 30secand then 20 cycles of 98°C for 10sec, 63°C for 30sec and 72°C for 1min. The linear fluorescence versus cycle number was plotted and the cycle number (N) required to reach one-third of the maximum relative fluorescence was determined. The final amplification reaction (the remaining  $45\mu$ l pre-amplified PCR product) was run under the following conditions: 98°C for 30sec and then N cycles of 98°C for 10sec, 63°C for 30sec and 72°C for 1min. Amplified samples were then purified using AMPure XP magnetic beads (Beckman Coulter) to remove small fragments and primer-dimers less than 100 bp long (1.3x beads) and large fragments (0.5x beads) using a Dynamag-2 magnet (Thermo Fisher Scientific).

To determine the integrity, fragment size and concentration, the DNA library was analyzed using the Agilent HSD5000 ScreenTape System (Agilent). Libraries were then 101 bp paired-end sequenced on an Illumina HiSeq 4000 (Illumina)

#### Data analysis

ATAC-seg reads were processed using the alignment and filtering functions of the PreNet pipeline<sup>54</sup>. Paired-end reads were mapped to the hg38 genome using bowtie2<sup>55</sup>, allowing for local mapping, a maximum insert size of 2000 bp and a maximum of 4 multimapping hits (-local -X 2000 -k 4). Multimapping reads were allocated using 'assignmultimappers.py' from the (https://github.com/ENCODE-DCC/atac-sea-ENCODE ATAC-seq pipeline pipeline/tree/master/src). Reads with MAPQ < 30 were excluded and only unique, paired reads that aligned outside blacklisted regions<sup>56</sup> were used for subsequent analyses. Filtering steps were performed using samtools<sup>57</sup> and sambamba<sup>58</sup>. Qualifying reads were then converted to pseudo-single end reads and peaks were detected using MACS259, with BED input files and reads shifted by -100 bp and extended to 200bp to capture Tn5 transposase events: -f BED shift -100 -extend 200 -q 0.05. Biological replicates were analyzed individually and then consensus peak list was created to include only peaks appearing in at least two of the three replicates. Accessibility within a pooled consensus peak list was estimated by quantifying Tn5 events in each of the biological replicates using featureCounts<sup>60</sup>. The DESeg2<sup>61</sup> package within

- R was used to identify differentially accessible regions. The regions were filtered for adjusted
- 684 P¬-value < 0.05 and an absolute Log2(Fold change) > 1. Coverage tracks were created using
- the bamCoverage function of deepTools<sup>62</sup> (–normalization RPKM -bs 10) and visualized within
- Integrative Genomics Viewer. 63 findMotifsGenome.pl from HOMER 64 was used to identify over
- enriched motifs, between 6 bp and 12 bp in size, within regions of differential accessibility using
- a repeat masked version of the hg38 sequence (-mask -len 6,7,8,9,10,11,12). Coverage tracks
- summarizing and combining biological replicates were created using Wiggle Tools 65 to quantify
- the mean coverage per 10 bp bin. These tracks were used for heatmap visualizations created
- 691 using plotHeatmap from deeptools.

#### Bulk RNA sequencing analysis

#### 693 Cell preparation and library prep

- 694 Illumina RNA Library prep was performed by GENEWIZ
- 695 (https://www.genewiz.com/Public/Services/Next-Generation-Sequencing). Samples at Day 1 of
- 696 DE differentiation (1 20μg RNA) were run on HiSeq4000 with a read depth of 20M paired end
- 697 reads (2x 150PE).

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#### 698 Data pre-processing

- 699 Details of the procedure can be found in Aryamanesh and colleagues 66
- 700 Statistical Analysis
- 701 Details of the procedure can be found in Aryamanesh and colleagues 66

## 702 Single-cell RNA sequencing

#### 703 **Cell preparation**

- hiPSCs were dissociated using Accutase and counted to load 10,000 cells into on channel of a
- 705 10X Chromium chip. One channel per sample was used. After emulsion cell lysis and RNA was
- extracted followed by library preparation. Libraries were sent to Novogene for sequencing.
- Single cell suspensions were passed through  $40\mu m$  cell strainer (Corning) and concentration
- 708 was adjusted to 1000 cells/ $\mu$ L. Suspensions were loaded in single-cell-G Chip (10X Genomics)
- for target output of 10,000 cells per sample. Single-cell droplet capture was performed on the
- 710 Chromium Controller (10X Genomics). cDNA library preparation was performed in accordance
- 711 with the Single-Cell 3' v 3.0 or v3.1 protocol. Libraries were evaluated for fragment size and
- 712 concentration using Agilent HSD5000 ScreenTape System (Agilent).
- 713 Samples were sequenced on an Illumina HiSeq4000 instrument according to manufacturer's
- instructions (Illumina). Sequencing was carried out using 2x150 paired-end (PE) configuration
- with a sequencing depth of 20,000 reads per cell. Sequencing was performed by GENEWIZ.

#### 716 Data pre-processing

717 Details of the procedure can be found in Aryamanesh and colleagues <sup>66</sup>

#### Statistical Analysis

Details of the procedure can be found in Aryamanesh and colleagues 66

#### **Proteomics**

Sample were prepared and data were obtained by the Proteomic facility at CMRI.

#### **Proteomics sample preparation and Mass spectrometry**

Eleven hiPSC lines from four isogenic groups were prepared for proteomics analyses using the Accelerated Barocycler lysis and extraction digestion sample preparation method<sup>67</sup>. The tryptic peptides were desalted using Waters Oasis C18 HLB 30mg SPE cartridges. The amount of peptide in each sample was measured using the absorption of 280 nm light (Implen Nanophotometer, Labgear, Australia).

A reference sample was prepared by pooling equal amount of peptide from 25 of the 45 hiPSC samples. Aliquots containing 10 µg of peptide from each sample were labeled with tandem mass tag (TMT) 16-plex reagents (TMTpro, Thermo Fisher Scientific), according to the manufacturer's instructions. Three separate TMT16plex sets were prepared with eleven samples per set and the reference sample included in each set.

ш			TMT_		
#	line_Name	Set-1	Set-2	Sel-3	plex label
1	Eu79	+	+	+	126
2	Eu86	+	+	+	127N
3	Eu87	+	+	+	127C
4	C9	+			128N
5	C11			+	128C
6	C16	+			129N
7	C7	+			129C
8	C32	+			130C
9	C4	+	+	+	131N
10	C2	+	+	+	131C
11	C3		+	+	132N
12	Universal reference sample	1			134

<sup>+,</sup> samples were combined to produce the reference sample used as the common sample in the three TMT 16plex experiments.

High pH fractionation was performed using the Pierce High pH Reversed-Phase Peptide Fractionation Kit according to the manufacturer's instructions. A total of 80 µg of peptide for each of the TMT16-plex sets were loaded, washed with water then 5% Acetonitrile/0.1% Triethylamine solution. A total of fifteen High-pH step elution's were collected from 8% to 50% Acetonitrile / 0.1% Triethylamine. The high-pH elution's were dried to completeness and resuspended in 0.1% Formic acid and the peptide concentration was determined using the absorption of 280 nm light.

The peptides from each High pH elution were resolved by reversed phase chromatography on a 300 x 0.075 mm column packed with ReproSil Pur C18 AQ 1.9 mm resin (Dr Maisch, Germany) using an Ultimate 3000 RSLC nano system (Thermo Fisher Scientific). The column was heated to 50 °C using a column oven (PRSO-V1, Sonation lab solutions).

The chromatography buffer A was 0.1% formic acid in water and buffer B was 0.1% formic acid, 90% acetonitrile and 9.99% water and the flow rate was 250 nL/min. For each high pH fraction, 1 to 2 µg of peptide was directly loaded onto the column in 99% buffer A and 1% buffer B for 30 min. The gradient started from 1% to 7% buffer B in 6 min, then to 30% buffer B in 51 min, then to 35% buffer B in 10 min and to 99% buffer B in 3 min and held at 99% buffer B for 8 min. MS acquisition was performed for the entire 120 min. The fifteen high pH elution steps collected for each TMT16-plex set were individually analysed using a data-dependent acquisition LC-MS/MS method. Between each TMT16plex set, one blank was run.

Peptides were detected by tandem mass spectrometry using a Q Exactive Plus hybrid quadrupole-orbitrap mass spectrometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific). The Nanospray Flex ion source (Thermo Fisher Scientific) spray operated at 2.3 kV. The capillary temperature was  $250^{\circ}$ C and the S lens radio frequency level was 50. The MS scan was from m/z 375 to 1500 at a resolution of 70,000 full width at half maximum with an automatic gain control target of  $3 \times 10^6$  counts for a maximum ion time of 100 ms. For each MS scan, up to 12 of the most intense ions above a threshold of  $5.2 \times 10^4$  counts were selected for an MS/MS scan. MS/MS scans were at a resolution of 35,000 full width at half maximum for a maximum ion time of 115 ms and automatic gain control target of  $2 \times 10^5$  counts. The isolation window was 1.1 units of the m/z scale, the fixed first mass was set at m/z 120 and the normalized collision energy was 30. Peptides with charge state <2 + or >8 + or with unassigned charge were excluded. Dynamic exclusion of previously scanned peptides was for 35 s.

The raw LC-MS/MS data were processed with MaxQuant v1.6.7.0 <sup>68</sup> using the following settings: The fasta file was the Human reference proteome downloaded from UniProtKB on January 12, 2022 and containing 101,017 entries including protein isoforms and Retention time standards. Protease specificity was Trypsin/P with up to 3 missed cleavages. Carbamidomethyl (C) was a fixed modification and the TMTpro 16plex reagents were designated isobaric labels. Deamidation (N and Q), oxidation (M) and acetylation (protein N-terminus) were variable modifications. A maximum of 5 modifications per peptide was allowed. The minimum score for modified peptides was 40. The minimum peptide length was 6 and maximum peptide mass was 6,000 Da. The peptide spectrum match, protein, and modification site false discovery rate was 1%. A dependent peptide search was performed with a 1% false discovery rate. Modified peptides and their counterpart non-modified peptides were excluded from protein quantification. A second peptide search was enabled. The tolerance for MS and MS/MS spectra was 4.5 ppm

and 20 ppm, respectively. All other settings were left as the default within MaxQuant v1.6.7.0. The three TMTpro 16plex sets were searched together (Set1, Set2, Set3); fractions 1 to 15 for each TMT set representing the High pH elution fractions.

#### Data cleaning, normalization and hypothesis testing

The data cleaning, normalization and hypothesis testing were performed using the ProteomeRiver pipeline<sup>69</sup> and the implementation is briefly described here. To extract the protein abundance data from the MaxQuant output, the 'proteinGroups.txt' output file from MaxQuant<sup>70</sup> were processed. Each protein group must have at least one unique peptide. Any proteins were removed from further analysis if they match any entries in the contaminants or the reverse sequence decoy databases, in which the protein accession starts with CON\_ or REV\_ prefixes respectively. The 'reporter intensity corrected' column were used for further analysis. Proteins with one or more missing values in any samples were removed from further analysis.

The following rules from Engholm-Keller et al.<sup>71</sup> were used to identify a representative UniProt accession for each protein group. 1. For proteins that mapped to multiple UniProtKB protein accessions, the accession with the highest 'protein existence (PE)' value was kept as the best evidence. Where the protein accession was an isoform (therefore lacking PE information), the PE value was taken from the parent protein. 2. When the PE value was equal, a Swiss-Prot (sp) entry was taken over a TrEMBL (tr) entry. 3. If both entries were Swiss-Prot, the non-isoform was selected. 4. If both entries were isoforms, the longest isoform was selected.

To perform data normalization, samples were log (base 2) transformed and between sample normalization were performed using scaled normalization from the 'limma' R package. The remove unwanted variation 'ruv' R package<sup>72</sup> was used to remove batch effects. The method relies on having a set of endogenous negative control proteins, which are proteins with little changes in protein abundances between different cell types or experimental treatments. For this study, a set of 500 empirical negative control proteins with high q-values indicating little or no change in protein expression across sample were identified from an initial ANOVA test. The RUVIII method<sup>73</sup> was used to remove the unwanted variations across the samples and six unwanted components (k = 7) were removed by the tool. The RUVIII method requires the experiment design matrix, a matrix describing the replicates for each treatment condition, and the list of negative control proteins.

Differential abundance analysis of proteins was performed using the adjusted abundance matrix. Differential abundance analysis of proteins involved pairwise hypothesis testing of samples from FA3 cell line with samples of another type of cell line and all possible pairs were analyzed. Linear model for comparing each pair of time points was fitted using the 'lmFit' function and the p-values calculated using the empirical Bayes method 'eBayes' function. Trended and robust analysis were enabled. The false discovery rate correction was applied to the moderated p-values by calculating the q-values<sup>74</sup>. Significant differentially expressed proteins were defined as those with q-values less than 0.05.

#### **Clustering Analysis**

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826 For a protein to be included in the clustering, it must be statistically down-regulated (q-value 827 <0.05) in six or more FA3 versus another cell line, or statistically up-regulated (q-value <0.05) in six or more FA3 versus another cell line. The protein must also be statistically significant (g-828 829 value <0.05) in at least one of the comparisons of FA3 with any of the KO or DOX cell lines. The 830 z-standardized log2 abundance of the sample, excluding samples of the KO or DOX cell lines, 831 were used in the clustering analysis (e.g. 10 values were used in clustering). Consensus clustering were performed 'diceR' R library<sup>75</sup>. All statistically significant differentially abundant 832 833 proteins. After assessment with the consensus clustering tools, using multiple clustering algorithms, including 'pam', 'km', 'som', 'hc', and 'diana', and different distance metrics 834 835 'euclidean', 'canberra', 'minkowski', and 'spearman', self-organizing maps (som) with seven 836 clusters (k=7) was identified to be a reliable method to use. The diceR tool automatically 837 identifies robust consensus clusters by merging the results from 100 runs of self-organizing 838 maps. The clusters identified were used for functional enrichment analysis (see below for 839 details).

#### Functional Enrichment

- 841 Functional enrichments were performed using the Fisher's exact test implemented in the
- 342 'clusterProfiler' R library<sup>76</sup>. The background list of proteins included all the proteins in the dataset
- after the data cleaning step. The query list of proteins includes the following: 1) significantly
- 844 differentially abundant proteins with positive log fold-change, 2) significantly differentially
- abundant proteins with negative log fold-change, 3) the list of proteins from each cluster from
- 846 self-organizing maps. Gene ontology annotations from UniProt<sup>77</sup> and the KEGG<sup>78</sup> and
- Reactome<sup>79</sup> pathway databases were used for the enrichment analyses.

## **Quantification and Statistical Analysis**

- Statistical analysis was performed using R software. The type of statistical test performed, the
- meaning of dispersion and precision measurements as well as the significance of each
- experiment is indicated in the corresponding figure, figure legends and/or in the method details.
- Outliers have been omitted to facilitate visualization. For micropattern quantification, images
- were taken from 3 to 10 micropatterns within a coverslip. For microfluidic PCR, three biological
- replicates were collected for each cell line and timepoint.

## **Supplementary Figures**

- Figure S1: A) Brightfield pictures of definitive endoderm differentiation for the 5 cell lines. Day4
- images were zoomed in (inlet) to show the cell morphology of the endodermal cells at the end
- of the differentiation protocol. Scale bar are indicated on the lowest right image of each panel;
- 859 **B)** Immunostaining quantification of FOXA2 (green) and SOX17 (magenta); related to Figure 1;
- 860 **C)** Immunostaining images on AAT (green) and ALB (magenta) markers of hepatocytes
- 861 differentiation;

- Figure S2: A) Genes' expression time course during DE differentiation related to i) Pluripotency,
- 863 ii) Endoderm, iii) Mesoderm and iv) Ectoderm. C32 is highlighted in purple. B) Heatmap of
- differentially expressed genes (DEGs) of C32 cell lines versus the rest of the cell line used in the
- study. **C)** Venn diagram of up and down DEGs compared with relevant ontologies. **D)** PCA
- representing data of bulk RNAseq of Day1 samples. **E)** DEGs between C32 and C7. Dots that
- are colored have a p.value < 0.05.
- 868 Figure S3: A) Schematic of the annotation transfer performed in our study; B) Result of the
- annotation transfer applied on our scRNA-seq dataset; C) The same results facetted for each
- cell line; **D)** Stacked barplot representing the proportion of each cell type for each cell line.
- Figure S4: A) PCA representing the proteomic signature of hiPSC; B) Volcano plot representing
- peptides significantly differentially expressed between C32 and C7; C) Allocation of peptides to
- 873 proteins and respective LogFC
- Figure S5: Staining for SOX2 (green) and OCT4 (magenta) on three colonies of A) C16; B)
- 875 C16-MKO; **C)** C32; **D)** C32-MKO. Scale bar = 100μm
- 876 Figure S6: A) Volcano plot representing Differentially Accessible Chromatins (DACs) region
- between C16 and C16-MKO. B and C) Heatmap showing ATAC-seq signal from C16 and C16-
- 878 KO for DACs (B) more accessible in C16 and (C) in C16-MKO. D and E) Motifs enriched in
- B79 DACs more accessible in (D) C16 and (E) C16-MKO. F) Genomic region of 350bp upstream of
- MixI1 TSS. 7 guides RNA predicted by Benchling are highlighted. **G)** RT-qPCR results on MixI1
- expression in HEK cells transfected with single guides or tandems.
- Figure S7: Panels of 10 micropatterns at 48h post BMP4 treatment, stained with FOXA2, SOX17
- and DAPI for A) C32, B) C32-MKO, C) C16 and D) C16-MKO. E) Indicates the average cell
- density for all micropattern analyzed.

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- Figure S8: A) Panels of 9 micropatterns at 48h post BMP4 treatment, stained with FOXA2,
- 886 SOX17 and DAPI for C32-iMXL1 at 0, 1 and 2µg/mL of Doxycycline. **B)** Indicates the average
- cell density for all micropattern analyzed.

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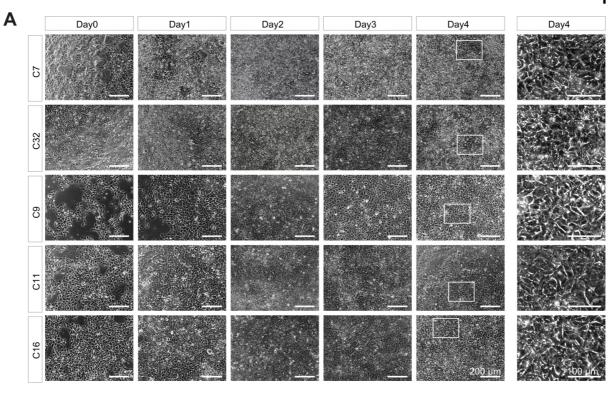
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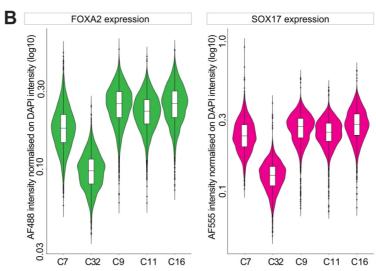
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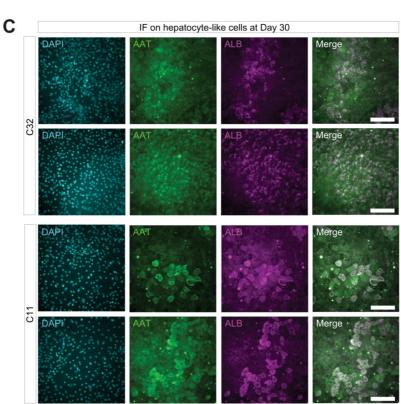
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Figure S1







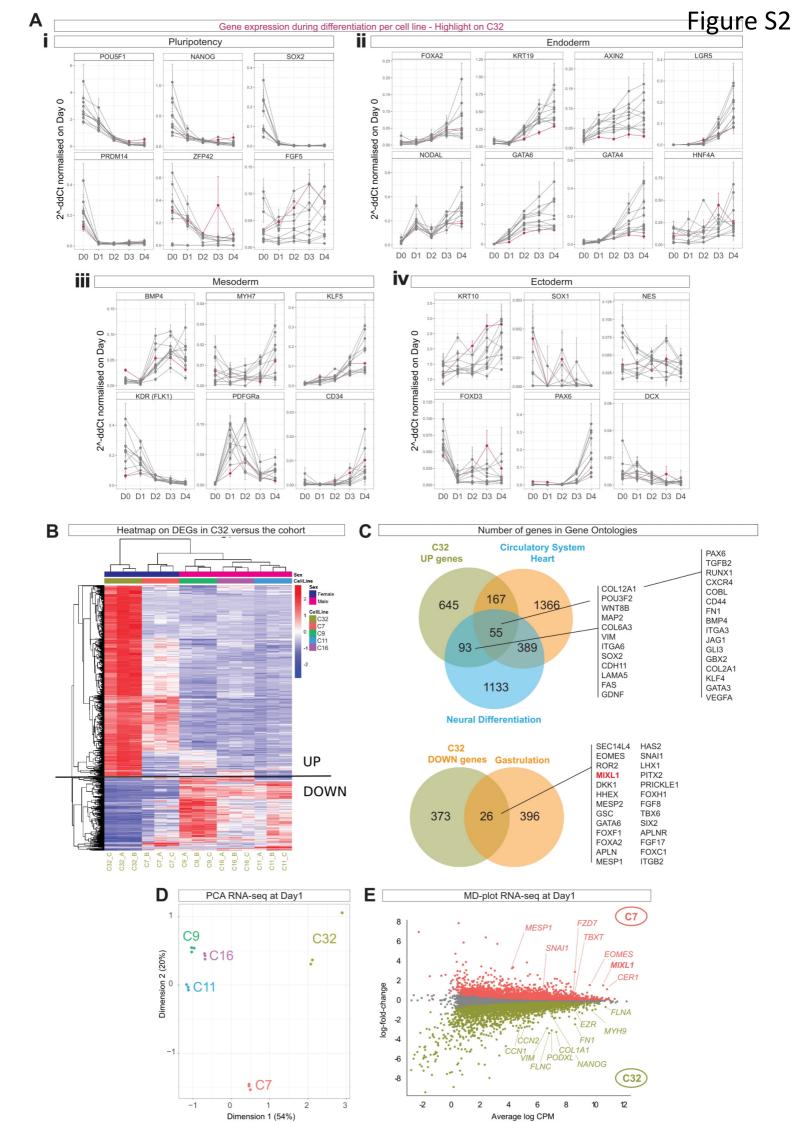
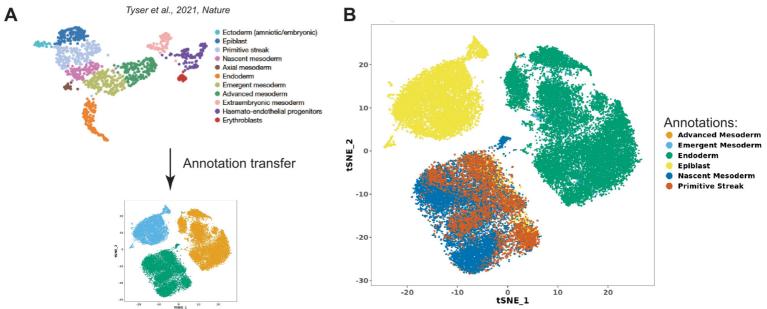
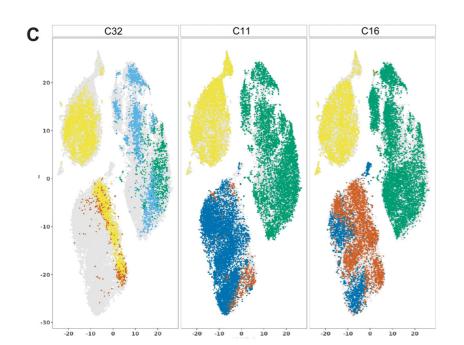
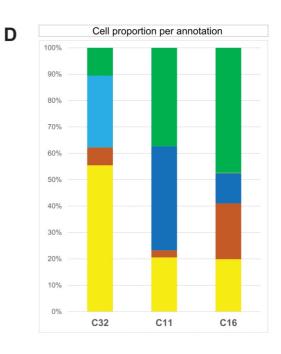
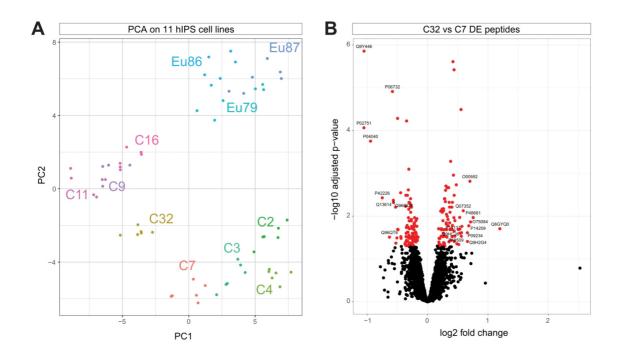


Figure S3



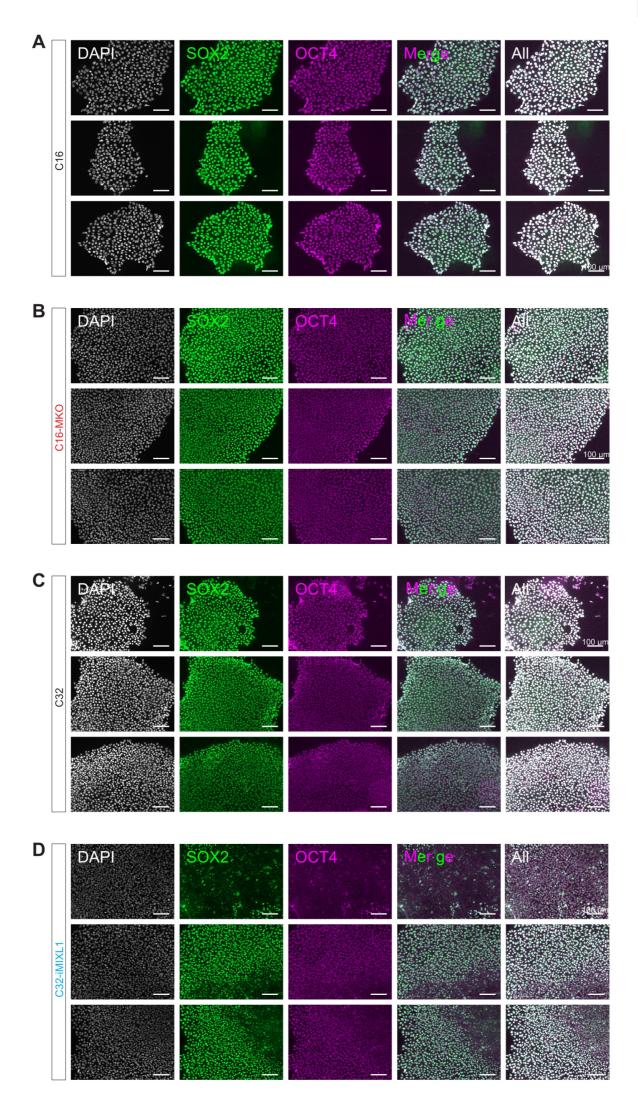






0	I al a 6' a	NI	IFC
C	Idenfier	Name	logFC
	Q6GYQ0	RALGAPA1, GARNL1, KIAA0884, TULIP1	1.19771
	P48681	NES, Nbla00170	0.75524
	075084	FZD7	0.712103
	000592	PODXL, PCLP, PCLP1	0.701107
	P14209	CD99, MIC2, MIC2X, MIC2Y	0.682289
	Q9H2G4	TSPYL2, CDA1, DENTT, TSPX, HRIHFB2216	0.66118
	P09234	SNRPC	0.659824
	Q07352	ZFP36L1, BERG36, BRF1, ERF1, RNF162B, TIS11B	0.590807
	P11137	MAP2	0.569085
	Q9HCJ6	VAT1L, KIAA1576	0.562332
	P48509	CD151, TSPAN24	0.55891
	Q96QD9	FYTTD1, UIF	-0.56781
	Q13614	MTMR2, KIAA1073	-0.56782
	P06732	CKM, CKMM	-0.58283
	Q96QT6	PHF12, KIAA1523	-0.6327
	P42226	STAT6	-0.75175
	P04040	CAT	-0.94585
	Q9Y446	PKP3	-1.05386
	P02751	FN1, FN	-1.05565

Figure S5



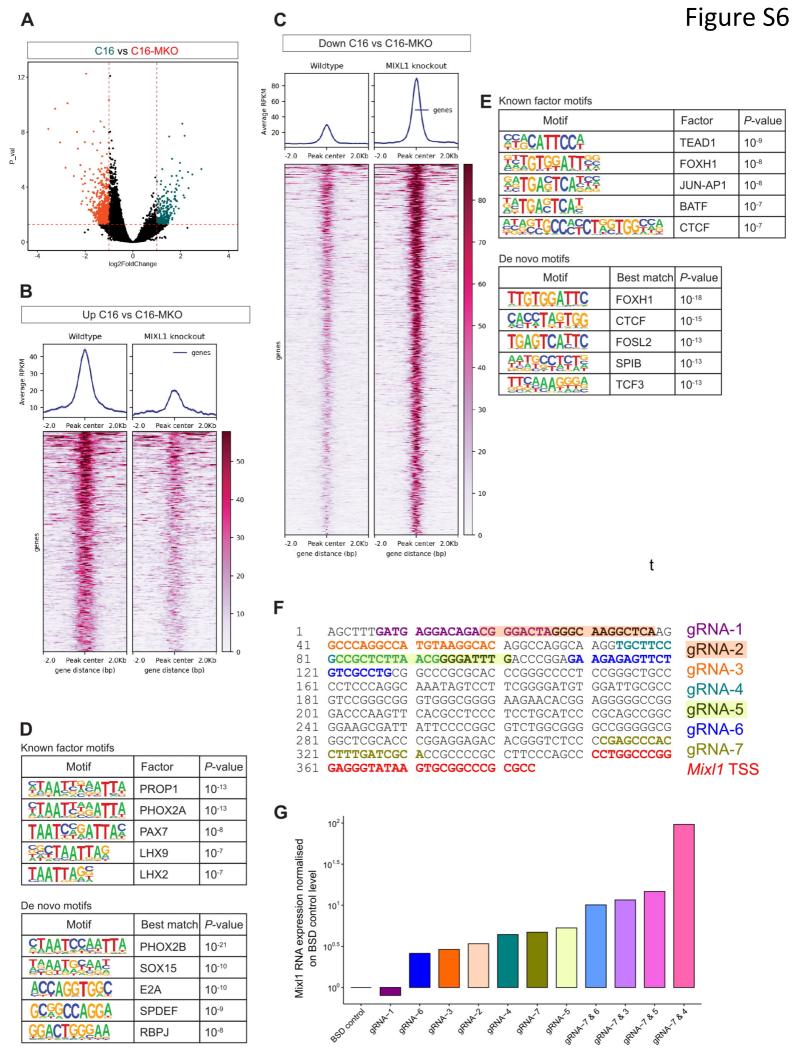


Figure S7

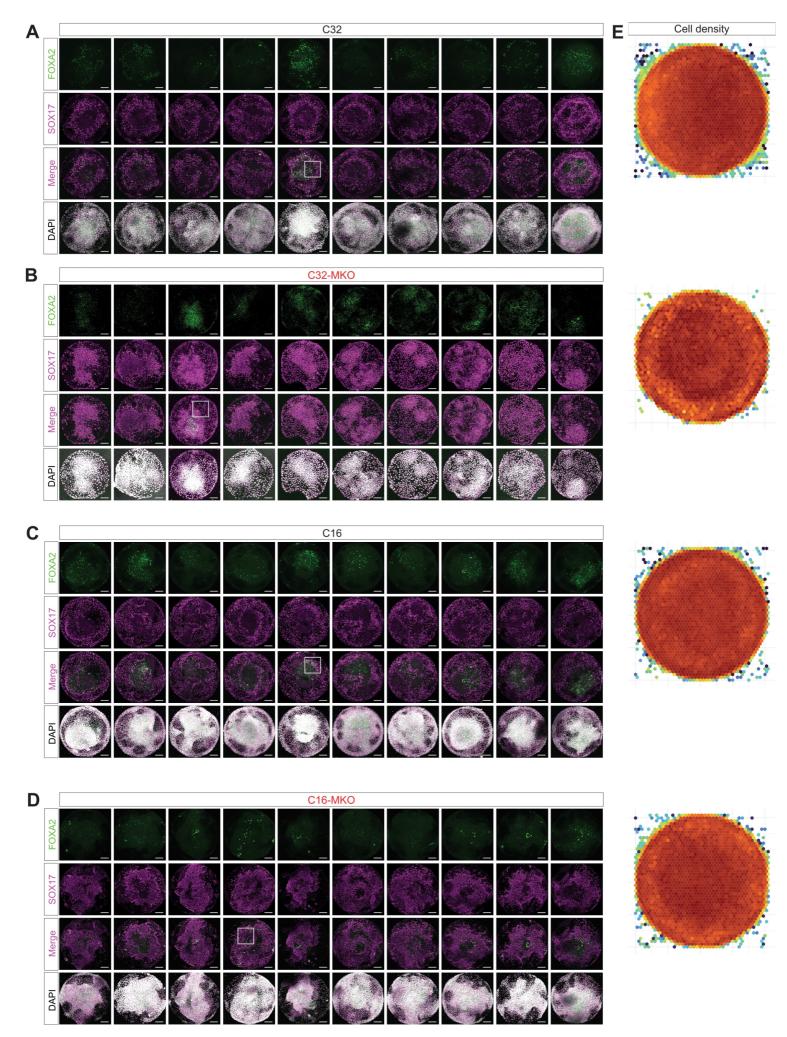
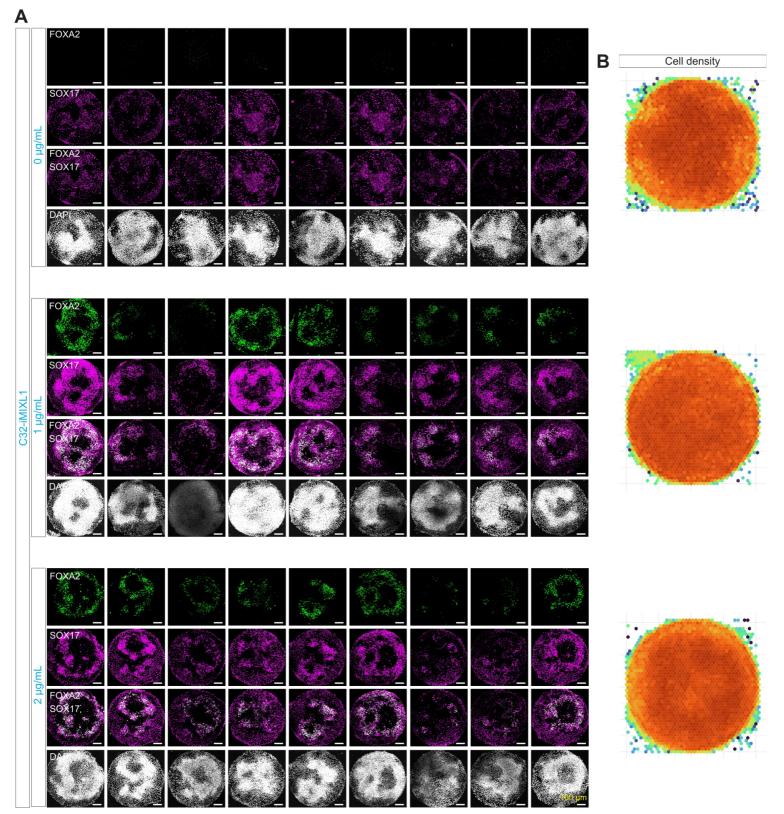


Figure S8



## Key resources table

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Antibodies		•
Rabbit Polyclonal anti-MixL1	Abcam	Cat# ab28411; RRID: AB_881536
Goat Polyclonal anti-T/Brachyury	Santa Cruz Biotechnology	Cat# sc-17745; RRID: AB_2200243
Rabbit Monoclonal anti-FoxA2	Abcam	Cat# ab108422; Clone: EPR4466; RRID: AB_11157157
Goat Polyclonal anti-Sox17	R&D Systems	Cat# AF1924; RRID: AB_355060
Rabbit Polyclonal anti-Sox9	Millipore	Cat# AB5535; RRID: AB_2239761
Rabbit Monoclonal anti-Ki67	Abcam	Cat# AB16667; Clone: SP6; RRID: AB_302459
Mouse Monoclonal anti-Chromogranin A	Novus Biologicals	Cat# NBP2-29428; Clone: CGA/414
Mouse Monoclonal anti-CDX2	BioGenex	Cat# MU392A-UC; Clone: CDX2-88; RRID: AB_2923402
Rabbit Polyclonal anti-Lysozyme	Agilent	Cat# A0099; RRID: AB_2341230
Mouse Monoclonal anti-Oct3/4	Santa Cruz Biotechnology	Cat# sc-5279; Clone: C10; RRID: AB 628051
Rabbit Monoclonal anti-Sox2	Cell Signaling Technologies	Cat# 3579; Clone: D6D9; RRID: AB_2195767
Donkey anti-goat IgG (H+L), Alexa Fluor 488 Conjugated	Invitrogen	Cat# A11055; RRID: AB_2534102
Donkey anti-rabbit IgG (H+L), Alexa Fluor 594 Conjugated	Invitrogen	Cat# R37119; RRID: AB_2556547
Donkey anti-mouse IgG (H+L), Alexa Fluor 488 Conjugated	Invitrogen	Cat# A21202; RRID: AB_141607
Donkey anti-rabbit IgG (H+L), Alexa Fluor 647 Conjugated	Invitrogen	Cat# A31573; RRID: AB_2536183
Chemicals, peptides, and recombinant prote		
hESC-qualified Matrigel	Corning	Cat# 85850
mTeSR1	StemCell Technologies	Cat# 85850
CloneR	StemCell Technologies	Cat# 05888
Puromycin dihydrochloride	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat# A1113802
ReLeSR	StemCell Technologies	Cat# 05872
CryoStor CS10	StemCell Technologies	Cat# 07930
dNTP Mix (10mM each)	ThermoFisher Scientific	Cat# R0192
StemPro Accutase Cell Dissociation Reagent	Life Technologies	Cat# A1110501
Y-27632 dihydrochloride Rock Inhibitor	Tocris	Cat# 1245
Basement Membrane Matrigel	Corning	Cat# 354234
STEMdiff Intestinal Organoid Growth Medium	StemCell Technologies	Cat# 05145

GlutaMAX Supplement, 100x	Gibco	Cat# 35050061
Anti-Adherence Rinsing Solution	StemCell Technologies	Cat# 07010
(3-aminopropyl)triethoxysilane	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat# A3648
Gluteraldehyde solution, 25%	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat# G6257
Acrylamide solution, 40%	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat# A4058
N-N'-Methylenebisacrylamide solution, 2%	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat# M1533
Ammonium persulfate	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat# A3678
N,N,N',N'-Tetramethylethylenediamine	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat# T7024
Hydrazine hydrate, 100% (hydrazine, 64%)	Fisher Scientific	Cat# AC196711000
Acetic acid, glacial	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat# PHR1748
SYLGARD 184 Lilicone Elastomer kit	Dow	Cat# 1317318
Vitronectin (VTN-N) Recombinant Human	Life Technologies	Cat# A14700
Protein, Truncated	Life reciliologies	Catt A14700
Sodium periodate	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat# 311448
Penicillin-Streptomycin	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat# P4333
Recombinant Human BMP-4 Protein	R&D Systems	Cat# 314-BP
Paraformaldehyde	Scharlau	Cat# PA00950500
Triton X-100	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat# X100
DPBS (1x)	Gibco	Cat# 14190-144
Bovine serum albumin	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat# A3311
DAPI	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat# 62247
Fluoromount-G	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat# 00-4958-02
CAS-Block Histochemical Reagent	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat# 008120
Ulex Europaeus Agglutinin I (UEA I),	Vector Laboratories	Cat# RL-1062-2
Rhodamine	Vector Eaboratories	Odi# 11E-1002-2
Glycerol	Chem-Supply	Cat# GA010
Tris Base	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat# T1503
EDTA	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat# 798681
Fructose	Sigma	Cat# F0127
Urea	Chem-Supply	Cat# UA001
Reverse Transcription Master Mix	Fluidigm	Cat# 100-6298
PreAmp Master Mix	Fluidigm	Cat# 100-5580
Exonuclease I	New England Biolabs	Cat# M0293S
SsoFast EvaGreen SuperMix with low ROX	BIO-RAD	Cat# 1725211
20x DNA Binding Dye	Fluidigm	Cat# 100-7609
2x Assay Loading Reagent	Fluidigm	Cat# 100-7611
Sodium chloride	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat# 71376
Magnesium chloride	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat# 208337
Igepal CA-630	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat# I8896
NEBNext High Fidelity 2x PCR Mix	New England Biolabs	Cat# M0541S
AmPure XP magnetic beads	Beckman Coulter	Cat#A63880
Fluoromount-G Mounting Medium	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat#00-4958-02
The state of the s	The state of the s	
mTeSR Plus	StemCell Technologies	Cat#100-0276
Critical commercial assays		
P3 Primary Cell 4D-Nucleofector X Kit	Lonza	Cat# V4LP-3002
Q5 High Fidelity DNA Polymerase kit	New England Biolabs	Cat# M0491
STEMDiff Definitive Endoderm Kit	StemCell Technologies	Cat# 05110
		1

STEMDiff Intestinal Organoid Kit	StemCell Technologies	Cat# 05140
P450-Glo CYP3A4 Assay with Luciferin-IPA	Promega	Cat# V9001
Isolate II RNA Mini kit	Bioline	Cat# BIO-52073
Tagment DNA TDE1 Enzyme and Buffer kit	Illumina	Cat# 20034197
MinElute PCR Purification Kit	Qiagen	Cat# 28004
	Qiagen	Cat# 20004
Deposited data	T	T
Micropattern data	This paper	https://github.com/PierreOsteil/ScriptsForOsteilEtAl2024
ATAC-seq data	This paper	GSE260552
RNA-seq data	This paper	GSE260553
scRNA-seq data	This paper	GSE260554
Proteomic data	This paper	PXD048788
Codes	This paper	https://github.com/PierreOsteil/ScriptsForOsteilEtAl2024
Experimental models: Cell lines		
Human: CRL1502 C7 hiPSC line	AIBN, UQ, Australia	N/A
Human: CRL1502 C32 hiPSC line	AIBN, UQ, Australia	N/A
Human: C32-MKO hiPSC line	VGEF, CMRI, Australia	N/A
Human: C32-Dox	AIBN, UQ, Australia	N/A
Human: FB C2 hiPSC line	AIBN, UQ, Australia	N/A
Human: FB C3 hiPSC line	AIBN, UQ, Australia	N/A
Human: FB C4 hiPSC line	AIBN, UQ, Australia	N/A
Human: CCL54 Eu79 hiPSC line	AIBN, UQ, Australia	N/A
Human: CCL54 Eu86 hiPSC line	AIBN, UQ, Australia	N/A
Human: CCL54 Eu87 hiPSC line	AIBN, UQ, Australia	N/A
Human: CRL2429 C9 hiPSC line	AIBN, UQ, Australia	N/A
Human: CRL2429 C11 hiPSC line	AIBN, UQ, Australia	N/A
Human: CRL2429 C11 MKO hiPSC line	VGEF, CMRI, Australia	N/A
Human: CRL2429 C16 hiPSC line	AIBN, UQ, Australia	N/A
Human: C16-MKO hiPSC line	VGEF, CMRI, Australia	N/A
Oligonucleotides	VOLI , OMINI, Australia	1977
3	This paper	N/A
S. pyogens Cas9 MIXL1 gRNA sequence forward 5'-	This paper	IN/A
GCGCCGCGTTTCCAGCGTACCGG-3'		
MIXL1 gRNA sequence	This paper	N/A
Forward: 5'	' '	
CACCGCGCCGCGTTTCCAGCGTAC-3'		
MIXL1 gRNA sequence	This paper	N/A
Reverse: 5'		
AAACGTACGCTGGAAACGCGGCGC-3'	This paper	N/A
MIXL1 gRNA exon 1 indel sequence Forward: 5'GGAGGGTATAAGTGCGGCC-3'	Triis papei	IN/A
MIXL1 gRNA exon 1 indel sequence	This paper	N/A
Reverse:	τιιο ραρει	IN/IS
5'CCTCATCTGTGTCTTCTTCCCG-3'		
Microfluidic qRT-PCR oligonucleotides	This paper	https://github.com/PierreOst
wild official of the transfer of the transfe	Tille hahei	eil/ScriptsForOsteilEtAl2024
ATAC-seq oligonucleotides	T Buenrostro J.D, et. al.	NA
	(2013)	
	/	

Recombinant DNA		
pSpCas9(BB)-2A-Puro (PX459) V2.0	Addgene	Cat# 62988
Software and algorithms		
Geneious	Kearse et al. (2012); DOI: 10.1093/bioinformatics/bt s199	http://www.geneious.com; RRID: SCR_010519
TIDE	Brinkman et al, (2014); DOI: 10.1093/nar/gku936	https://tide.nki.nl; RRID: SCR_023704
Fiji	Schindelin <i>et al.</i> , (2012); DOI:10.1038/nmeth.201	http://fiji.sc; RRID:SCR_002285
Fluidigm Real Time PCR Analysis software	Fluidigm	https://www.fluidigm.com/sof tware; RRID:SCR_015686
R Project for Statistical Computing	R Core Team (2021)	https://www.r-project.org/; RRID:SCR_001905
PreNet Pipeline	Salehin et al. (2020); DOI: 10.1142/S0219720 02040003X	https://doi.org/10.1142/S021 972002040003X
Bowtie2	Langmead et al. (2012); DOI: 10.1038/nmeth.1923	https://bowtie- bio.sourceforge.net/bowtie2/ index.shtml; RRID: SCR_016368
ENCODE ATAC-seq pipeline	Kim DS (2023); DOI: 10.1007/978-1-0716- 2899-7_17	https://github.com/ENCODE -DCC/atac-seq- pipeline/tree/master/src; RRID: SCR_023100
SAMTOOLS	Heng et al. (2009); DOI: 10.1093/bioinformatics/bt p352	http://samtools.sourceforge. net; RRID: SCR_002105
Sambamba	Tarasov et al. (2015); DOI: 10.1093/bioinformatics/bt v098	http://www.open- bio.org/wiki/Sambamba.Sa mbamba
MACS, Version 2	Zhang et. al (2008); DOI: 10.1186/gb-2008-9-9-r137	https://github.com/macs3- project/MACS; RRID: SCR_013291
featureCounts	Liao et al. (2014); DOI: 10.1093/bioinformatics/bt t656	http://subread.sourceforge.n et; RRID: SCR_012919
DESeq2	Love et al. (2014); DOI: 10.1186/s13059-014-0550-8	http://www.bioconductor.org/ packages/release/bioc/html/ DESeq2.html; RRID: SCR_015687
deeptools	Ramirez et al. (2016); DOI: 10.1093/nar/gkw257	https://github.com/deeptools /deepTools; RRID: SCR_016366
Integrative Genomics Viewer	Thorvaldsdóttir et al. (2013); DOI: 10.1093/bib/bbs017	http://www.broadinstitute.org /igv; RRID: SCR_011793

MiggleTools	HOMER	Heinz et al. (2010); DOI:	https://github.com/sipcaptur
MiggleTools	TOME!		
DOI:			
10.1093/bioinformatics/bt t737	WiggleTools	Zerbino et al. (2014);	www.github.com/Ensembl/
ProteomeRiver pipeline			
ProteomeRiver pipeline			SCR_001170
Aryamanesh N, Graham M			
MaxQuant	ProteomeRiver pipeline		
Cox et al. (2008); DOI: 10.1038/nbt.1511   SCR_014485   SCR_014485			
10.1038/nbt.1511   5111795/maxquant; RRID: SCR_014485	MayOuant		
SCR_014485	MaxQuant		
(2012); DOI: 10.1093/hostatistics/kxr 034   Nolania et al. (2019); DOI: 10.1093/nar/gkz433   Nolania et al. (2018); DOI: 10.1186/s12859-017- 10.1186/s12859-017- 10.1186/s12859-017- 10.108/s12859-017- 10.1016/j.xinn.2021.100   Nolania et al. (2021); DOI: 10.1093/nar/gkac1052   Nolania et al. (2023); DOI: 10.1093/nar/gkac1052   Nolania et al. (2023); DOI: 10.1093/nar/gkac963   Nolania et al. (2023); DOI: 10.1093/nar/gkac963   Nolania et al. (2022); DOI: 10.1093/nar/gkac963   Nolania et al. (2022); DOI: 10.1093/nar/gkab1028   Nolania et al. (2022); DOI: 10.1093/nar/gkab1028   Nolania et al. (2022); DOI: 10.1093/nar/gkab1028   Nolania et al. (2022); DOI: 2023   Nolania et al. (2023); DOI: 2023   Nolania et al. (20		10.1036/1101.1311	SCR 014485
10.1093/biostatistics/kxr   034	RUV-2		
RUV-III			lob/master/R/RUV2.R
Molania et al. (2019);   DOI: 10.1093/nar/gkz433   Dob/master/R/RUVIII.R			
DOI: 10.1093/nar/gkz433   lob/master/R/RUVIII.R	DUV/III	= =	https://with.uh.g//
Chiu et al. (2018); DOI: 10.1186/s12859-017-1996-y	RUV-III		
10.1186/s12859-017-   1996-y	DiceP		
1996-y	Dicer		
clusterProfiler         Wu et al. (2021); DOI: 10.1016/j.xinn.2021.100 14.1         http://bioconductor.org/pack ages/release/bioc/html/clust erProfiler.html; RRID: SCR_016884           UniProt         UniProt Consortium (2023); DOI: 10.1093/nar/gkac1052         https://www.uniprot.org/; RRID: SCR_002380           KEGG         Kanehisa et al. (2023); DOI: 10.1093/nar/gkac963         https://www.kegg.jp; RRID: SCR_012773           Reactome         Gillespie et al. (2022); DOI: 10.1093/nar/gkab1028         http://www.reactome.org; RRID: SCR_003485           Other         Thermo Fisher Scientific         Cat# NUN142475           Dynamag-2 magnet         Thermo Fisher Scientific         Cat# 12321D           HSD5000 ScreenTape         Agilent         Cat# 5067-5592           μ-slide 18-well - flat         Ibidi         Cat# 81826           40μm cell strainer         Corning         Cat# CLS431750			projection gradinage areas
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	Single-Cell-G Chip	10x Genomics	Cat# 1000127