# Main manuscript for

# CHD7 and Runx1 interaction provides a braking mechanism for hematopoietic

# differentiation

Jingmei Hsu<sup>1,2,14†</sup>, Hsuan-Ting Huang<sup>3,14††</sup>, Chung-Tsai Lee<sup>2</sup>, Avik Choudhuri<sup>3</sup>, Nicola K.

Wilson<sup>4</sup>, Brian J. Abraham<sup>5</sup>, Victoria Moignard<sup>4</sup>, Iwo Kucinski<sup>4</sup>, Shuqian Yu<sup>2</sup>, R. Katherine

Hyde<sup>6†††</sup>, Joanna Tober<sup>2</sup>, Xiongwei Cai<sup>2</sup>, Yan Li<sup>2</sup>, Yalin Guo<sup>7</sup>, Song Yang<sup>3</sup>, Michael Superdock<sup>3</sup>,

Eirini Trompouki<sup>3††††</sup>, Fernando J. Calero-Nieto<sup>4</sup>, Alireza Ghamari<sup>8</sup>, Jing Jiang<sup>9</sup>, Peng Gao<sup>10</sup>,

Long Gao<sup>10</sup>, Vy Nguyen<sup>3</sup>, Anne L. Robertson<sup>3</sup>, Ellen M. Durand<sup>3</sup>, Katie L. Kathrein<sup>3</sup>, Iannis

Aifantis<sup>11</sup>, Scott A. Gerber<sup>12</sup>, Wei Tong<sup>9</sup>, Kai Tan<sup>10,13</sup>, Alan B. Cantor<sup>8</sup>, Yi Zhou<sup>3</sup>, P. Paul Liu<sup>6</sup>,

Richard A. Young<sup>5</sup>, Berthold Göttgens<sup>4</sup>, Nancy A. Speck<sup>2\*</sup>, and Leonard I. Zon<sup>3\*</sup>

# Affiliations:

Division of Hematology/Oncology, Department of Medicine, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104, USA

2

Abramson Family Cancer Research Institute and Department of Cell and Developmental Biology, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104, USA

<sup>3</sup> Stem Cell Program and Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, Boston Children's Hospital and Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Harvard Stem Cell Institute, Harvard University, Boston, Massachusetts 02115, USA

<sup>4</sup>Cambridge Institute for Medical Research, Department of Haematology, Wellcome Trust/MRC Stem Cell Institute, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, United Kingdom

<sup>5</sup>Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, Department of Biology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02142, USA

<sup>6</sup>National Human Genome Research Institute, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland 20892, USA

<sup>7</sup>Department of Microbiology and Immunology, Geisel School of Medicine, Lebanon, New Hampshire 03756, USA

<sup>8</sup>Division of Hematology/Oncology, Boston Children's Hospital and Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts 02115, USA

<sup>9</sup>Division of Hematology, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104, USA

<sup>10</sup>Division of Oncology and Center for Childhood Cancer Research, Department of Biomedical and Health Informatics, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA 19104, USA

<sup>11</sup>Department of Pathology and Laura and Isaac Perlmutter Cancer Center, New York University School of Medicine, New York, New York, 10016, USA

<sup>12</sup>Department of Genetics, Geisel School of Medicine, Lebanon, New Hampshire 03756, USA

<sup>13</sup>Department of Pediatrics, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104, USA

<sup>†</sup>Present address: BMT program, Division of Hematology/Oncology, Department of Medicine, Weill Cornell Medical Center, New York, NY, USA

<sup>††</sup>Present address: Department of Human Genetics, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Miami, Florida 33136, USA

<sup>+++</sup>Present address: Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, Nebraska 68198, USA

<sup>++++</sup>Present address: Department of Cellular and Molecular Immunology, Max Planck Institute of Immunobiology and Epigenetics, Freiburg, Germany

# <sup>14</sup>These authors contributed equally to this work: Jingmei Hsu and Hsuan-Ting Huang

\*Corresponding authors: <u>zon@enders.tch.harvard.edu</u> (L.I.Z.); <u>nancyas@upenn.edu</u> (N.A.S.).

Nancy A. Speck https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1893-582X

Leonard Zon https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0860-926X

**Classification** Biological Sciences, Developmental Biology, Genetics

Keywords (3 to 5 words) Hematopoiesis, RUNX1, CHD7

# Author Contributions

J.H., X.C., J.T, Y.L., J.J., and S.Y. performed the mouse experiments. H-T.H. and V.N. performed zebrafish experiments. J.H. and C-T.L. performed biochemical experiments. W.T., J.J, J.H. and X.C. performed the limiting dilution transplant experiments. R.K.H. performed the *CBFB-MYH11* mouse experiments. N.K.W. and V.M. performed ChIP-seq in the inducible Cbfb-Myh11 HPC cell line generated by F.J.C-N. A.C., A.G., and I.K. generated CRISPR knockout cells and performed experiments. Y.G. and S.A.G. performed the mass spectrometry. J.H., H-T.H., A.C., N.K.W., B.J.A., V.M., I.K., S.Y., M.S., A.L.R., and L.G. performed bioinformatic analyses. E.T. generated the *Tg(runx1:hsp70,cmlc:dsRed)* zebrafish line. K.L.K. and P.G. performed ChIP-seq. E.M.D. performed microarray. P.P.L. participated in the *CBFB-MYH11* experiments. I.A., K.T., A.B.C., Y.Z., R.A.Y., and B.G. participated in bioinformatic analysis. J.H., H-T.H., N.A.S., and L.I.Z. designed and interpreted experiments and wrote the manuscript.

This PDF file includes: Main Text Figures 1 to 5 Figures S1 to S5

#### 1 Abstract

2 Hematopoietic stem and progenitor cell (HSPC) formation and lineage differentiation involve 3 gene expression programs orchestrated by transcription factors and epigenetic regulators. 4 Genetic disruption of the chromatin remodeler chromodomain-helicase-DNA-binding protein 7 5 (CHD7) expanded phenotypic HSPCs, erythroid, and myeloid lineages in zebrafish and mouse 6 embryos. CHD7 acts to suppress hematopoietic differentiation. Binding motifs for RUNX and 7 other hematopoietic transcription factors are enriched at sites occupied by CHD7 and 8 decreased RUNX1 occupancy correlated with loss of CHD7 localization. CHD7 physically 9 interacts with RUNX1 and suppresses RUNX1-induced expansion of HSPCs during 10 development through modulation of RUNX1 activity. Consequently, the RUNX1:CHD7 axis 11 provides proper timing and function of HSPCs as they emerge during hematopoietic 12 development or mature in adults, representing a distinct and evolutionarily conserved control 13 mechanism to ensure accurate hematopoietic lineage differentiation.

14

#### 15 Significance

Hematopoiesis involves the control of gene expression that regulates the processes of proliferation and differentiation. We found that the chromatin remodeler CHD7 controls the differentiation process. Knockdown or knockout of CHD7 leads to enhanced hematopoietic differentiation in zebrafish and mice, suggesting that CHD7 acts as a brake on gene expression associated with terminally differentiated blood cells.

21

22

#### 23 Introduction

Hematopoiesis is established in three waves at different anatomic sites in all vertebrate embryos. The first, primitive wave takes place in the yolk sac and generates primitive erythrocytes, macrophages and megakaryocytes. In the second, definitive wave, hematopoietic progenitor cells (HPCs) differentiate from hemogenic endothelium in the yolk sac and dorsal aorta (1), and in the placenta, vitelline, and umbilical arteries in mice and humans (2). The third wave, also derived from hemogenic endothelium in the dorsal aorta, vitelline and umbilical arteries, produces hematopoietic stem cells (HSCs).

31 A large-scale in vivo reverse genetic screen targeting zebrafish homologs of 425 human 32 chromatin factors with antisense oligonucleotide morpholinos to identify genes controlling 33 embryonic hematopoietic stem and progenitor cell (HSPC) formation uncovered chromodomain-34 helicase-DNA-binding protein 7 (Chd7) as the only factor that increased the expression of both 35 primitive and definitive hematopoietic genes, including runx1, when inhibited (3). The CHD class 36 of ATP-dependent chromatin remodeling enzymes alters nucleosome structure and has been 37 implicated in the maintenance of mouse embryonic stem cells, mammalian development, DNA 38 damage response, and transcription regulation (4). Autosomal dominant CHD7 mutations cause 39 the inherited CHARGE and Kallmann syndromes (5). Mutations and copy number variations of 40 CHD7 have been found in hematologic and other cancers (6).

RUNX1 is a master transcription factor absolutely required for hemogenic endothelial specification and the endothelial to hematopoietic cell transition in zebrafish and mice (7-12). Loss of RUNX1 in adult HSCs results in HPC and myeloid lineage expansion and lymphoid lineage depletion (13). Here, we show that CHD7 genetically interacts with RUNX1 during hematopoietic ontogeny and adult hematopoiesis, and disruption of CHD7 leads to enhanced hematopoietic differentiation.

- 47
- 48
- 49
- 50

#### 51 **Results**

#### 52 CHD7 negatively regulates hematopoietic development.

53 Morpholino (MO) knockdown of chd7 in zebrafish embryos (chd7 morphants) increased 54 the expression of primitive erythroid-specific  $\beta$ -globin e3 (hbbe3) at 17 hours post-fertilization 55 (hpf), and definitive hematopoietic markers myb and runx1 in the dorsal aorta (DA) at 36 hpf (SI 56 Appendix, Fig. S1A-D). Markers of hematopoietic mesoderm at 10-12 hpf (tal1 and Imo2) were 57 elevated in chd7 morphants, while earlier expression of the pan-mesodermal markers ntla and 58 eve1, and the early hematopoietic marker drl at 6 hpf were normal (Fig. 1A and SI Appendix, 59 Fig. S2A). Markers of primitive erythroid (gata1, gata2, hbbe3) and myeloid cells (mpx and 60 spi1b) were increased in the posterior lateral mesoderm, and expression of definitive myeloid 61 (myb) and erythroid (hbae1, hbbe1) markers were elevated in the caudal hematopoietic tissue 62 (CHT), a site of HSPC colonization (Fig. 1A,B and SI Appendix, Fig. S2A). Expression of 63 endothelial kdrl was normal, and analysis of Tg(kdrl:EGFP) chd7 morphants showed no 64 increase in GFP<sup>+</sup> endothelial cells (SI Appendix, Fig. S1E,F). Hence, chd7 regulates both 65 primitive and definitive hematopoietic lineage gene expression in the zebrafish embryo. The 66 increased expression of hematopoietic genes correlated with enhanced hematopoiesis. chd7 67 *Tg(myb:EGFP)* morphants had 1.6-fold more myb:EGFP<sup>+</sup> cells in the DA and 2.8-fold more in 68 the posterior tail region than control embryos (Fig. 1C). Similar increases were observed in two 69 other hematopoietic transgenic lines, Tq(Imo2:DsRed) and Tq(itqa2b:EGFP) (SI Appendix, Fig. 70 S1G), and in an independent study (14). We confirmed a reduction of rag1 expression in the 71 thymus indicative of a decrease in T lymphocyte progenitors (SI Appendix, Fig. S2A), which was 72 attributed in a previous study to severely impaired thymus organogenesis (14). We conclude 73 that *chd7* negatively regulates HSPC formation in the zebrafish embryo.

74

To determine if the function of CHD7 in hematopoiesis is conserved in the mouse, we measured the number of phenotypic HSPCs in the aorta-gonad-mesonephros (AGM) region

77 of Chd7 mutant embryos. HSPCs in mouse embryos briefly accumulate as clusters of Runx1<sup>+</sup>CD31<sup>+</sup>Kit<sup>+</sup> cells attached to luminal endothelial cells in the major caudal arteries, 78 79 peaking in number at embryonic day (E) 10.5 (15). Germline deletion of CHD7 caused a 80 developmental delay by E10.5 and lethality by E11.5 (16), preventing accurate assessment of 81 AGM hematopoiesis in null embryos. Therefore, we enumerated Runx1<sup>+</sup>CD31<sup>+</sup>Kit<sup>+</sup> hematopoietic cluster cells in  $Chd7^{+/-}$  embryos, which are viable, and in embryos with  $Chd7^{f}$ 82 alleles deleted by Cre driven by vascular endothelial cadherin (Cdh5) regulatory sequences 83 84 (Cdh5-Cre) (SI Appendix, Fig. S3A). There was a significant increase in Runx1<sup>+</sup>CD31<sup>+</sup>Kit<sup>+</sup> cells in the AGM region of Chd7<sup>f/f</sup>;Cdh5-Cre embryos and a trend towards increased numbers 85 in *Chd7*<sup>+/-</sup> embryos (Fig. 1D,E). The numbers of definitive erythroid and myeloid progenitors in 86 87 the yolk sac of mutant embryos were also increased (Fig. 1F), but lymphoid progenitor 88 numbers in the AGM, umbilical and vitelline arteries (A+U+V) were lower (Fig. 1G). The 89 number of primitive erythroid progenitors in the volk sac was not altered (Fig. 1H). We 90 conclude that CHD7 restrains the numbers of definitive erythroid and myeloid progenitors 91 differentiating from the yolk sac and phenotypic HSPCs in the AGM region in both zebrafish 92 and mouse embryos.

93

94

# CHD7 functions to regulate myeloid output from HSCs.

95 We evaluated the hematopoietic function of CHD7 in the mouse by excising  $Chd7^{t}$ 96 alleles with Vav1-Cre (SI Appendix, Fig. S3A,B). CHD7 is most highly expressed in long term 97 repopulating HSCs (LT-HSCs) (SI Appendix, Fig. S3C), but deletion of CHD7 did not 98 significantly affect the percentages of phenotypic LT-HSCs (CD48 CD150<sup>+</sup> lineage Sca1<sup>+</sup>Kit<sup>+</sup> 99 (LSK)) or restricted hematopoietic progenitors (HPC-1, CD48<sup>+</sup>CD150<sup>-</sup>LSK), although there was a significant increase in CD48 CD150 LSK cells, which contain several populations of 100 101 multipotent progenitors (MPPs) (17) (Fig. 2A). The frequency of functional CHD7 deficient LT-102 HSCs in both whole BM and in purified CD48<sup>-</sup>CD150<sup>+</sup>LSK cells, determined by limiting dilution

103 transplants, was increased >2-fold when donor contribution to Mac1<sup>+</sup> peripheral blood (PB) cells 104 was scored (Fig. 2B,C). In contrast, no significant increase in LT-HSC frequency was detected 105 when donor contribution to CD48<sup>-</sup>CD150<sup>+</sup>LSK cells in the recipient BM was scored (SI 106 Appendix, Fig. S3D), suggesting that CHD7 does not affect the frequency of LT-HSCs, but 107 constrains the myeloid lineage output of LT-HSCs and potentially other downstream 108 progenitors. Serial transplantation of BM cells revealed no differences between control and 109 CHD7 deficient HSCs by the fourth transplant, thus CHD7 deficient LT-HSCs had normal self-110 renewal capacity (SI Appendix, Fig. S3E,F). There were no differences in proliferation, 111 quiescence, or apoptosis between CHD7 deficient and control LT-HSCs, MPPs, or HPC-1s in 112 adult mice (SI Appendix, Fig. S3G-I). The frequencies of phenotypic LT-HSCs and HPC-1s were 113 not differentially affected by stress induced by 5-fluorouracil injection (SI Appendix, Fig. S3J). 114 We conclude that CHD7 loss does not negatively impact most functional properties of LT-HSCs.

115

116 Gene expression profiling did, however, reveal differences between control and CHD7 117 deficient LT-HSCs. Ingenuity Pathway Analysis determined that genes upregulated in CHD7 118 deficient LT-HSCs were significantly associated with hematopoietic system development and 119 function, immune cell trafficking, cell to cell signaling and interaction, and cellular movement 120 (Fig. 2D and Supplementary Dataset 1,2). Genes representative of each blood lineage, 121 including erythroid (Hbb-b1, glycophorins), myeloid (Mpo, Lyz1, Alox5), and lymphoid (Thy1) 122 were upregulated in CHD7 deficient LT-HSCs (Fig. 2E, Supplementary Dataset 1), suggesting that CHD7 deficiency results in LT-HSCs that are more primed for multilineage differentiation. 123 124 Additional evidence that CHD7 constrains myeloid lineage differentiation include an elevated frequency of differentiated Gr1<sup>+</sup>Mac1<sup>+</sup> cells in the liver of E14.5 Chd7<sup>+/-</sup> fetuses (SI Appendix, 125 Fig. S4A) and in adult BM and spleen of Chd7<sup>#/</sup>; Vav1-Cre mice (SI Appendix, Fig. S4B), and 126 127 increased numbers of granulocyte/monocyte progenitors in culture (SI Appendix, Fig. S4C). We

128 conclude that CHD7 deficient LT-HSCs are more primed for differentiation, particularly of129 myeloid lineage cells.

130

#### 131 CHD7 cooperates with the RUNX1 transcription factor.

132 To determine how CHD7 regulates hematopoietic genes, we performed chromatin 133 immunoprecipitation followed by sequencing (ChIP-seq) to identify CHD7 occupied loci in the 134 murine 416B HPC line (18) (Supplementary Dataset 3). CHD7-occupied gene regions are 135 DNasel hypersensitive and co-localize with multiple hematopoietic transcription factors (19) 136 (Fig. 3A-D). Ets, Runx, and Gata motifs were enriched at CHD7 bound sites, suggesting that 137 CHD7 functions in part through key hematopoietic transcription factors to regulate 138 hematopoiesis (Fig. 3E). Given that RUNX1 was shown to interact with CHD7 (20), we 139 performed ChIP-seq to determine if RUNX1 influenced CHD7 occupancy. We were unable to 140 generate a RUNX1 deficient HPC line, so instead used a Tet-inducible, neomorphic CBFB-141 MYH11 fusion gene to block RUNX1 activity (SI Appendix, Fig. S5A). CBFβ-SMMHC (encoded 142 by CBFB-MYH11) blocks RUNX1 activity, in part, by sequestering it off the DNA (21). Upon 143 induction of CBFB-MYH11 expression (+Dox), we identified peaks with >4-fold decreases in 144 RUNX1 binding (Fig. 3F and SI Appendix, Fig. S5B). Of the 3,036 peaks that lost RUNX1 145 binding, 1,043 (34.4%) showed >2-fold and 270 (8.9%) >4-fold loss in CHD7 binding (Fig. 3F 146 ii,iii), as illustrated for the Evi5 gene (Fig. 3G). In contrast, of the 10,045 RUNX1 peaks that did 147 not decrease upon CBFB-MYH11 expression, only 781 (7.8%) showed >2-fold and 65 (0.6%) 148 >4-fold CHD7 binding loss (Fig. 3F ii,iv). These results are reproducible and indicate that CHD7 149 is selectively lost from regions of the genome where RUNX1 binding is attenuated 150 (Supplementary Dataset 4). This observation is supported by short-term analysis of 151 CRISPR/Cas9 knockouts for CHD7 and RUNX1 in which initial gene expression changes when 152 either gene is perturbed are positively correlated (SI Appendix, Fig. S5C and Supplementary 153 Dataset 5), and consistent with previous data showing that ~30% of genes that are differentially

expressed in *CBFB-MYH11*-expressing cells upon CHD7 loss are direct RUNX1 targets (20).
Consequently, CHD7 and RUNX1 function together on target genes important for
hematopoiesis in HPCs at the genomic level.

157

#### 158 CHD7 physically interacts with RUNX1.

159 We independently identified CHD7 in an unbiased mass spectrometry screen for 160 proteins that interact with RUNX1 and its non-DNA binding partner CBF<sub>β</sub> (Fig. 4A and Table S1). We and others confirmed the interaction of endogenous CHD7 with RUNX1 and CBF $\beta$  by 161 162 co-immunoprecipitation in a cell line that expresses high levels of all three proteins (20) (Fig. 163 4B). CHD7 binds the activation domain of RUNX1, as RUNX1 proteins with deletions impinging 164 on the activation domain do not immunoprecipitate CHD7 (Fig. 4C-E). Thus, the RUNX1 165 activation domain, which is essential for RUNX1 function (22), mediates the interaction with 166 CHD7.

167

168 We functionally mapped domains in CHD7 responsible for its ability to constrain definitive 169 hematopoiesis. Overexpression of human CHD7 (hCHD7) mRNA (23) suppresses HPCs in the 170 CHT of zebrafish embryos (Fig. 4F). We injected five different hCHD7 truncation mutants (24) 171 into zebrafish embryos to determine which mutant (mut) proteins could suppress myb/runx1 172 expression. Only hCHD7 mut 5 lacking the N-terminal portion of the ATPase/helicase domain 173 failed to suppress *mvb/runx1* expression, whereas deletion of the chromodomains (mut 6) or the 174 SLIDE/SANT/BRK domains (mut 2-4) had no effect (Fig. 4G,H, SI Appendix, Fig. S2B). The catalytically dead mutant (23) hCHD7<sup>K999R</sup> also failed to suppress myb expression in the CHT 175 176 (Fig. 4F, Appendix, Fig. S2B). The ability of CHD7 to suppress hematopoiesis requires its 177 ATPase/helicase activity.

178

179 CHD7 genetically interacts with RUNX1 to regulate hematopoiesis.

180 We tested if CHD7 and RUNX1 genetically interact. We observed an increased 181 percentage of Gr1<sup>+</sup>Mac1<sup>+</sup> cells in the spleen of  $Runx1^{+/-}$ ; Chd7<sup>+/-</sup> compared to Chd7<sup>+/-</sup> mice, 182 suggesting that CHD7 represses adult myelopoiesis in collaboration with RUNX1 (Fig. 5A). We 183 also identified a genetic interaction during embryonic hematopoiesis. In the absence of RUNX1, 184 primitive erythropoiesis in the murine volk sac is delayed, as evidenced by an increase in 185 immature Ter119<sup>lo</sup>Kit cells and a commensurate decrease in mature Ter119<sup>hi</sup>Kit cells (Fig. 186 5B,C). This delay is more pronounced in embryos heterozygous for the neomorphic Cbfb-*MYH11* allele (*Cbfb*<sup>+/M</sup>) (Fig. 5C). The dominant negative effect of the *Cbfb*<sup>M</sup> allele requires 187 RUNX1, as it is suppressed by RUNX1 deficiency (*Cbfb*<sup>+///</sup>;*Runx1*<sup>-/-</sup>) (25) (Fig. 5B). Deletion of 188 189 either one or both Chd7 alleles (Chd7<sup>+/-</sup> or Chd7<sup>/-</sup>) did not alter the percentages of Ter119<sup>lo</sup>Kit<sup>-</sup> and Ter119<sup>hi</sup>Kit<sup>-</sup> cells, but in Cbfb<sup>+///</sup> embryos, loss of Chd7 partially restored primitive 190 191 erythrocyte differentiation (Fig. 5B,C). Since either loss of Runx1 or Chd7 can suppress the 192  $Cbfb^{M}$  allele, they both function in the same genetic pathway and are required for the 193 neomorphic activity of the CBFB-MYH11 fusion gene. This is consistent with a previous study 194 showing loss of CHD7 delays leukemogenesis caused by CBFB-MYH11 (20).

195

196 We also examined the functional relationship between *chd7* and *runx1* during embryonic 197 hematopoiesis in the zebrafish. Definitive hematopoiesis in the DA of zebrafish embryos is impaired by a *runx1<sup>w84x</sup>* mutation that truncates the Runx1 protein (26). Knockdown of *chd7* in 198 199 runx1<sup>w84x/w84x</sup> embryos did not restore myb expression in the DA, as runx1 is necessary for 200 HSPC development, myb expression, and CHD7 activity (Fig. 5D). Therefore, we tested the 201 effect of runx1 overexpression on CHD7 activity. Ectopic expression of hCHD7 mRNA 202 decreases myb expression in the CHT, while overexpression of runx1 from an inducible heat 203 shock promoter increases myb mRNA levels as expected (Fig. 5E). When hCHD7 mRNA was

expressed in the context of heat shock induced *runx1*, the ability of *runx1* to increase *myb* expression was suppressed (Fig. 5E). Altogether, the data indicate that *chd7* functions to inhibit *runx1* activity during embryonic hematopoiesis.

- 207
- 208
- 209
- 210 **Discussion**

211 We uncovered a novel mechanism in hematopoietic differentiation in which the activity of 212 the key transcription factor RUNX1 is regulated by the chromatin-remodeling enzyme CHD7. 213 Expression of CHD7 is not blood specific; nonetheless it functions to negatively regulate several 214 stages of embryonic and adult hematopoiesis that are well conserved from zebrafish to mouse. 215 Loss of CHD7 enhances HSPC formation and lineage differentiation, particularly of the myeloid 216 lineage. In adult mice, CHD7 deficient LT-HSCs have a gene expression profile suggestive of a 217 primed state that promotes multilineage differentiation, indicating that the enhanced myeloid cell 218 contribution originates from the LT-HSC. Genomic analysis of CHD7 occupancy suggests that it 219 can cooperate with multiple hematopoietic transcription factor genes. Here, we demonstrate that 220 CHD7 genetically and physically interacts with RUNX1 through the RUNX1 transactivation 221 domain, and that RUNX1 recruits CHD7 to a subset of its target genes. The outcome of the 222 interaction between RUNX1 and CHD7 depends on the developmental context. RUNX1 and 223 CHD7 have opposing effects during HSPC formation from hemogenic endothelium, with RUNX1 224 promoting and CHD7 dampening the process. In the adult, however, RUNX1 and CHD7 both 225 function to restrict myeloid lineage output from LT-HSCs (27, 28). This may have more to do 226 with RUNX1's opposing functions in determining myeloid progenitor numbers in the embryo 227 versus the adult, as we show here that in multiple contexts, in zebrafish embryos, mouse 228 embryos, and adult mice, CHD7 appears to constrain the differentiation of myeloid lineage cells.

Distinct functions and mechanisms for CHD7 have been described in different cell types and developmental stages. In murine ES cells, CHD7 is associated with active chromatin and actively transcribed genes, yet its dominant activity is to suppress gene expression (29). In contrast, CHD7 primarily augments gene expression in pre-leukemic HSPCs expressing the CBFB-MYH11 protein (20). CHD7's function in embryonic and adult hematopoiesis is similar to what has been observed in ES cells, i.e. that it primarily dampens the expression of actively transcribed genes.

236

237 Mutational analysis showed that the catalytic activity of the ATPase/helicase domain is 238 required for CHD7 to suppress myb expression in zebrafish embryos. Other domains such as 239 the chromodomains and SANT domain, which are required for CHD7's ATPase/helicase activity 240 in vitro and are mutated in CHARGE syndrome (24), were not required to repress embryonic 241 hematopoiesis. A possible explanation for this paradox is overexpression of CHD7 lacking 242 chromodomains or the SANT domain may bypass the stricter requirement for these domains in 243 biochemical assays using purified proteins, or *in vivo* where CHD7 is present at physiological 244 levels. ATP binding may be necessary for the ATPase/helicase domain to interact with other 245 proteins. An example of this is the RNA helicase UAP56, which must bind ATP to interact with 246 U2AF in spliceosome assembly (30). Five proteins detected in our CHD7 pulldown are known to 247 be part of, or interact with, the Mi-2/NuRD repressive complex, thus loss of ATP binding by 248 CHD7 could impair the recruitment of repressors at enhancers or gene bodies to regulate gene 249 transcription, leading to increased expression of RUNX1 and other hematopoietic transcription 250 factor targets. A third possibility is there may be multiple ways by which CHD7 is recruited to 251 chromatin and catalysis is activated; in developmental hematopoiesis proteins such as RUNX1 252 may substitute for the chromodomains and SANT domain to recruit CHD7 to chromatin and 253 stimulate its enzymatic activity. Future work elucidating the molecular mechanism of how CHD7 254 navigates the chromatin to regulate transcription will provide additional insights into how

255 epigenetic regulators function with transcription factors to promote appropriate lineage256 differentiation.

257

258

#### 259 Materials and Methods

#### Animal models.

261 Zebrafish (Danio rerio) Tüebingen strain were bred and maintained according to

institutional animal care and use committee guidelines at Boston Children's Hospital.

263 Morpholino sequences were: *chd7 exon 3*: ACTCGTTTATACTCTACACGTACCT; *chd7 exon 4*:

264 TTACAAGCAAGTTTACCTGAAC ACC (Gene Tools, LLC). *Chd7* morpholinos were

resuspended in nuclease-free water, and equal amounts of each morpholino were combined

266 (12-15ng) for microinjection at the single cell stage. Standard control morpholino from Gene

267 Tools was used. Fish lines *Tg(myb:EGFP)*, *Tg(Imo2:dsRed)*, *Tg(itga2b:EGFP*, *Tg(kdrl:RFP)*,

268 Tg(kdrl:EGFP), Tg(hsp70:runx1;cmlc:dsRed), and runx1<sup>w84x/+</sup> were previously described (26, 31-

269 **36**).

270

271 Mouse 129S1/SvImi and C57BL6/J strains were bred and maintained according to 272 institutional animal care and use committee guidelines at University of Pennsylvania. 273 Generation of the murine Chd7 targeting vector and electroporation into C57BL/6J ES cells was 274 performed by InGenious Targeting Laboratory, Ronkonkoma, NY (details available upon 275 request). Chimeric mice were mated to 129S1/SvImi x C57BL6/J F1 mice, and progeny 276 backcrossed to C57BL/6J mice for 6 generations. Primers for Chd7 genotyping were JMH61: 277 AAAATGTGGATCTCTCCCAAACT, JMH65:TTATTTCTTGAGACAAGGCCTCAC, JMH66: 278 GGTAACACAC TCCTTTAAACCCAGA. Vav1-Cre mice were provided by Thomas Graf (37).

279  $Runx1^{+/-}$  ( $Runx1^{tm1Spe}$ ),  $Cbfb^{+/M}$  ( $Cbfb^{tm1/hc}$ ), Cdh5-Cre, and  $\beta$ -actin-Cre mice were described 280 previously (28, 38-40). Both male and female animals were used for experiments.

281

#### 282 Embryo staining and microscopy.

Whole mount *in situ* hybridization on zebrafish embryos fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde was performed as described previously (41) with a minimum of two independent replicates performed for each staining. Ratios represent number of embryos with indicated phenotype/total number scored. Stained embryos were imaged using a Nikon stereoscope with a Nikon Coolpix 4500 camera or Zeiss camera. Embryos mounted in glycerol were imaged on a Nikon E600 compound microscope. Confocal imaging was performed on a Zeiss spinning disk confocal microscope using Volocity (PerkinElmer) or ZEN (ZEISS) software for image acquisition.

290

291 Whole mount immunostaining of mouse embryos were processed as described (15). 292 Primary antibodies used were rabbit anti-mouse CD117 (Thermo Fisher Scientific Cat# 14-1171-293 82,, RRID:AB\_467433), rat anti-mouse CD31 (BD Biosciences Cat# 550274, RRID:AB\_393571), and 294 rabbit anti-human/mouse RUNX1 (Abcam Cat# 2593-1, RRID:AB 1580795). Secondary antibodies 295 were purchased from Invitrogen: goat anti-rat Alexa Fluor 647 (Thermo Fisher Scientific Cat# A-296 21247, RRID:AB\_141778), goat-anti rat Alexa Fluor 555 (Thermo Fisher Scientific Cat# A-21434, 297 RRID:AB 2535855), and goat anti-rabbit Alexa Fluor 488 (Thermo Fisher Scientific Cat# A-11006, 298 RRID:AB\_2534074). Images were collected on a Zeiss LSM 710 confocal microscope equipped 299 with 488-, 543- and 633-nm wavelengths and a 20x immersion objective (Plan-Apochromat 300 25x/0.8 NA). Data were acquired using Zeiss ZEN 2011 and processed using FIJI software (42), 301 LOCI Bio-Formats Importer (http://dev.loci.wisc.edu/fiji/) and the cell counter plugin (version 29 302 February 2008, Kurt De Vos, http://rsb.info.nih.gov/ij/plugins/cell-counter.html). To count 303 hematopoietic clusters, 2 to 3 micron thick Z-sections were collected.

304

#### 5 **Transplantation Assays.**

306 Limiting dilution transplantations were performed using total bone marrow cells and 307 sorted CD48<sup>-</sup>CD150<sup>+</sup>Lin<sup>neg</sup>Sca1<sup>+</sup>Kit<sup>+</sup> cells from Chd7<sup>f/f</sup> or Chd7<sup>f/f</sup>; Vav1-Cre mice (C57BL/6J), 308 along with 2x10<sup>5</sup> total bone marrow competitor cells (129S1/SvImJ x B6.SJL-309 Ptprc<sup>a</sup>PepC<sup>b</sup>/BoYJ F1) into 9 Gy lethally irradiated recipients (B6.SJL-*Ptprca Pepcb*/BoyJ (B6-LY5.2/Cr)). To purify CD48<sup>-</sup>CD150<sup>+</sup>Lin<sup>neg</sup>Sca1<sup>+</sup>Kit<sup>+</sup> donor cells, bone marrow cells were 310 311 lineage depleted using biotinylated antibodies to CD3, CD5, CD19, B220, Gr1, Mac1 and anti-312 biotin MACS beads on a MACS column (Miltenyi Biotec), then stained with lineage antibodies 313 (B220, Gr1, Mac1, CD3e, Ter119; eFlour450), Sca1 PerCP/Cy5.5, Kit APC-eFlour780, CD48 314 APC, CD150 PE-Cy7 and sorted on a BD FACSAria. 315 For serial transplantation, 2 x 10<sup>6</sup> total BM donor cells were transplanted into lethally 316 317 irradiated B6-LY5.2/Cr recipient mice without competitors as described above. At 4 months, 2 x 10<sup>6</sup> BM cells from each primary recipient were transplanted into secondary B6-LY5.2/Cr 318 319 recipients. The transplant was carried out until tertiary recipients were transplanted into fourth 320 B6-LY5.2/Cr recipients. 321 322 Positive engraftment was scored three different ways: 1) ≥1% of all cell lineages in PB 323 were donor-derived at 4 months post-transplantation; 2)  $\geq 1\%$  Mac1<sup>+</sup> cells in PB were donor-324 derived at 4 months post-transplantation; 3) ≥1% CD48<sup>-</sup>CD150<sup>+</sup>LSK cells in BM were donor-325 derived. ELDA (43) R statistical software was used to assess differences between paired sets 326 of limiting dilution analyses to give the estimate of functional LT-HSC numbers. 327 328 To assess response to stress, 150 mg/kg 5-fluorouracil (FU) (Sigma) was injected 329 intravenously and HSCs were analyzed 7 days later by flow cytometry (27).

330

#### **Progenitor Assays.**

332 Myeloid methylcellulose assay using bone marrow and fetal cells was described 333 previously (44). Embryonic lymphoid T and B progenitors assays using OP9 and OP9-DL1 334 stromal cells were performed as described (45, 46). L-Calc (Stem Cell Technologies) was used to calculate the progenitor frequencies. 335

336

#### 337 RNA isolation, microarray processing, and analysis.

338 Mouse genome 1.0 arrays were used to perform microarray analysis of Chd7<sup>i/i</sup> and

Chd7<sup>t/f</sup>; Vav1-Cre CD48<sup>-</sup>CD150<sup>+</sup>LSK cells. Following lineage depletion, CD48<sup>-</sup> 339

340 CD150<sup>+</sup>Lin<sup>neg</sup>Sca1<sup>+</sup>Kit<sup>+</sup> cells were sorted directly into TRIzol LS (Ambion, 10296028). cDNAs

341 were generated using the Nugen WT-Ovation Pico system with Exon Module 3 (Nugen, 3300

342 and 2000-12) and were hybridized to Affymetrix Mouse 430v.2 chip (Affymetrix Mouse Gene

343 2.0ST). Intensity CEL files were normalized with the Robust Multichip Average (RMA) algorithm.

344 Expression value fold change cutoff was set at 2-fold and p-value set as 0.05 for Ingenuity

345 Pathway Analysis (IPA) using default parameters.

346

347 MouseGene 2.0 ST arrays were used to perform microarray analysis of LT-HSCs (CD48<sup>-</sup>

348 CD150<sup>+</sup>CD34<sup>-</sup>LSK) ST-HSCs (CD48<sup>-</sup>CD150<sup>+</sup>CD34<sup>+</sup>LSK), and MPPs (CD48<sup>+</sup>CD150<sup>-</sup>CD34<sup>+</sup>LSK)

349 populations from 8 week old C57BL6J mice for Chd7 expression. Differentially expressed genes

350 were assessed as those with at least a log fold expression change of 1 and an FDR based

351 adjusted p-value of <0.1.

352

353 CHD7 deletion mutants cloned in pcDNA3.1 vector (24) were used to synthesize mRNA 354 for microinjection in zebrafish embryos. Constructs were linearized with AvrII (NEB), then 355 purified by ethanol precipitation after phenol:chloroform extraction for mRNA synthesis using 356 mMessage mMachine T7 Ultra kit (Ambion).

358

359

360	Flow	cytom	etry.
-----	------	-------	-------

Flow cytometry was performed on BD LSRII or FACSAria, and data were analyzed with
 Flowjo (Tree Star Inc.). For analysis of *Tg(kdrl:EGFP)* embryos, embryos were manually
 dissociated in PBS containing Liberase (Sigma-Aldrich), then washed and filtered in 0.9X
 PBS/2% FBS.

365

366 Monoclonal antibodies used for analysis of adult and embryonic blood cells in mice were 367 as described above (27) with the following additions/exceptions: CD19 (BD Biosciences Cat# 368 561738, RRID:AB\_10893995), CD71 (BD Biosciences Cat# 553266, RRID:AB\_394743). FACS 369 staining of the embryonic peripheral blood was performed as described previously (47, 48). For 370 fetal liver HSPC analysis, lineage antibodies included CD3, CD5, CD19, B220 and Gr1, but not 371 Mac1. 372 373 Cell cycle, proliferation, and apoptosis analysis. 374 Mouse BrdU assays were performed as described previously (27). Antibodies to Ki-67 375 (BioLegend Cat# 652405, RRID:AB 2561929) and Annexin V (Thermo Fisher Scientific Cat# 88-376 8005-72, RRID:AB\_2575162) were used to analyze proliferation and apoptosis. 377 378 RT- and gPCR. 379 Pools of 20 to 50 embryos were homogenized in TRIzol, and RNA extracts were prepared 380 according to the manufacturer's protocol (Life Technologies). Genomic DNA was removed with

381 TURBO DNA-free kit (Ambion), followed by cDNA synthesis using SuperScript III First Strand

382 synthesis kit according to the manufacturer's protocol (Life Technologies). Primers used for RT-

383 PCR were: chd7 ex2 forward: 5'-GGGCACCTACTCACCAATCA-3', chd7 ex4 reverse: 5'-

384 GCCTCTTTCTTGGTGCTGTT-3', chd7 ex3 forward: 5'-TCCCAAGACACCCAAAGAAC-3', chd7

385 ex5 reverse: 5'-GCCTCTTTCTTGGTGCTGTT-3', ef1α forward: 5'-ATCTACAAATGC

386 GGTGGAAT-3', *ef1α* reverse: 5'-ATACCAGCCTCAAACTCACC-3'. qPCR was performed using

387 SsoFast EvaGreen Supermix on a BioRad C1000 CFX-384 real-time PCR machine. qPCR

388 primers used were: myb forward: 5'-CCGACAGAAGCCGGATGA-3', myb reverse: 5'-

389 TGGCACTTCGCCTCAACTG-3', *runx1* forward: 5'-CGTCTTCACAAACCCTCCTCAA-3', and

390 *runx1* reverse: 5'-GCTTTACTGCTTCATCCGGCT-3'.  $^{\Delta}$ Ct values were normalized to *ef1a*.

391

### 392 Western blot and LC-MS/MS protein identification.

393 Nuclear extracts from murine T-ALL cell line 720 (49) were incubated with protein A Dynabeads

394 coupled with anti-CHD7 (Abcam Cat# ab31824, RRID:AB\_869129), RUNX1 (Millipore Cat# PC284,

395 RRID:AB\_2254229), CBFβ (β141.1, Speck lab), Flag (Sigma-Aldrich Cat# A2220,

396 RRID:AB\_10063035) or CHD4 (Abcam Cat# ab72418, RRID:AB\_1268107) antibodies overnight at

397 4°C or at room temperature for 1 hour.

398

399 For LC-MS/MS, FLAG-tagged CBFβ was expressed in and immunoprecipitated from extracts of

400 the 720 T-ALL cell line (49). The CBF $\beta$  immunoprecipitates will contain RUNX subunits and

401 other RUNX-CBF $\beta$  interacting proteins. As a control, a FLAG-tagged CBF $\beta$  containing two

402 amino acid substitutions that decrease RUNX1 binding (50) was immunoprecipitated as a

403 negative control to subtract out proteins that bound to FLAG-CBF $\beta$  in the absence of RUNX.

404 Identification of protein-protein interactors was performed by excision of regions of SDS-PAGE-

405 separated immunoprecipitates, in-gel digestion and peptide shotgun sequencing as described

406 (51). Briefly, gel regions were destained to clarity, dehydrated, digested with trypsin, extracted

407 and analyzed by LC-MS/MS on an LTQ Orbitrap mass spectrometer. The resulting MS/MS

408	spectra were data searched using the SEQUEST algorithm (52) against a mouse proteome
409	database (International Protein Index; IPI) and curated to a <1% false discovery rate (FDR)
410	using the target-decoy strategy (53). Proteins were required to have a minimum of 3 peptides to
411	be declared as a positive identification.
412	
413	ChIP-sequencing.
414	ChIP-seq and DNase I hypersensitivity mapping in 416B cells was performed as described
415	previously (19, 54). De novo motif analysis was performed using HOMER (55).
416	
417	RNA-sequencing.
418	Transcriptional profiles of 416B cells expressing sgRNAs were analyzed using a protocol based
419	on the Smart-Seq2 system (56) with the following modifications: pools of 75 cells expressing
420	each sgRNA were sorted into 96-well plates containing lysis buffer, and cDNA was amplified
421	with 13 PCR cycles. Each experimental condition was analyzed in quadruplicates. Illumina
422	sequencing was perfomed on a HiSeq 4000 instrument. Reads were aligned against mouse
423	reference genome GRCm38/mm10 using GSNAP, and those overlapping exons (ENSEMBL
424	m38.81) were counted using HTSeq (57). Differential gene expression was performed using the
425	DESeq2 package (58).
426	
427	Cell lines.
428	To generate CBFB-MYH11 expressing cells, the mouse myeloid progenitor cell line 416B was
429	co-transfected with: 1) a plasmid containing the tetracycline transcription silencer (tTS), the
430	tetracycline transactivator (rtTA) and blasticidin resistance under the control of a Ef1 $\alpha$ promoter

- 431  $\,$  and 2) a plasmid containing the entire Cbfb-Myh11 type A cDNA in frame with an F2A element
- 432 and mCherry protein under the control of a tetracycline responsive element. As control, cells
- 433 were alternatively transfected with a plasmid lacking the Cbfb-Myh11 cDNA. Transposase

434 PL623 (59) (kindly donated by Pentao Liu, Sanger Institute, Cambridge) was also transiently 435 expressed to promote simultaneous stable integration of the constructs. Plasmids were 436 transfected into 416B cells by electroporation using a BioRad electroporator (220V, 900  $\mu$ F). 437 After 24 hours, cells were selected in 1 µg/ml of blasticidin (InvivoGen). After 14 days, mCherry-438 negative single cells that did not stain with DAPI (Sigma) were sorted into 96-well plates using a 439 BD Influx sorter and cultured for typically 2 weeks. Clonal cultures were then tested for induction 440 and expression levels of Cbfb-Myh11 using 1µg/ml of doxycycline. Induction of Cbfb-Myh11 for 441 ChIP experiments, performed in replicate, was confirmed by flow cytometry for mCherry

442 expression on a BD Fortessa.

443

444 416B cells expressing Cas9 protein were obtained by transduction with pKLV2-EF1a-Cas9Bsd-

445 W lentivirus (Addgene #68343) and selected with 10 µg/ml of blasticidin (InvivoGen). Three

different *Chd7* and one *Runx1* sgRNAs were cloned into the Perturb-seq GBC library backbone

447 (Addgene #85968), and lentivirally transduced BFP<sup>+</sup>7AAD<sup>-</sup> cells were sorted after 4 days by flow

448 cytometry for RNA-seq or genotyping. Efficiency of CRISPR editing was confirmed by high-

throughput sequencing of genomic DNA from  $2x10^5$  cells. Targeting sgRNAs sequences were:

450 Chd7 sgRNA1 – AGACGCCAATCCGTTCCCG, Chd7 sgRNA2 –

451 TGGTACCTGAACGGCCCGG, Chd7 sgRNA3 – GACATGCCCATAAACGAACG, Runx1

452 sgRNA1 – GCGCACTAGCTCGCCAGGG.

453

454 All cell lines were tested negative for mycoplasma contamination.

455

456 **Statistics**.

457 Quantitative data is shown as mean  $\pm$  s.d. with *P* values calculated using unpaired two-tailed

458 Student's *t*-test or analysis of variance (ANOVA). No statistical method was used to

459 predetermine sample size. The experiments were not randomized. The investigators were not460 blinded to allocation during experiments and outcome assessment.

461

#### 462 **Data Availability.**

Genomic and microarray data are deposited in Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO) under the
following accession numbers: GSE84136, GSE83956.

465

#### 466 Acknowledgments

467 The authors thank A.D. Yzaguirre for technical assistance on confocal microscopy, C-Y. Tsai for 468 help with identifying Runx1 interacting proteins, T. Gao and M. Matthews for help with ES cell 469 culture, J. Tobias for help with IPA microarray data analysis, and C. Lobry for help with heatmap 470 visualization of microarray data. The authors would also like to thank the Aifantis, Knaut, Torres-471 Vasquez, and White labs in New York for use of laboratory and fish facility space to complete 472 this work. We apologize for omitting many relevant references due to space limitations. This 473 work was supported by NIH grants R01 HL089969, R01 HL091724, and U01HL100405 to 474 N.A.S.; R01 HL04880, PPG-P015PO1HL32262-32, 5P30 DK49216, 5R01 DK53298, 5U01 475 HL10001-05, and R24 DK092760 to L.I.Z.; and R01 HG002668 to R.A.Y. R.K.H. and P.P.L. are 476 supported by the Intramural Research Program of the National Human Genome Research 477 Institute and NIH4R00CA148963 (R.K.H). N.K.W., V.M., F.CN. and B.G. were supported by 478 grants from Bloodwise grant 12029, Leukemia and Lymphoma Society grant 7001-12, CRUK 479 grant C1163/A12765 and core infrastructure support by the Wellcome Trust and MRC to the 480 Wellcome Trust and MRC Cambridge Stem Cell Institute grant 097922/Z/11/Z. J.H. was 481 supported by 5-T32-HL-007439-34 and K12CA076931. H-T.H. was supported by NYSTEM 482 training grant C026880. L.I.Z. is an Investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. 483

- 484 **Competing interests:** L.I.Z. is founder and stockholder of Fate, Scholar Rock, and Camp4
- 485 Therapeutics and a scientific advisor for Stemgent. Eirini Trompouki and Teresa Bowman are
- 486 co-authors on a 2017 meeting summary.

# References

- 1. Orkin SH & Zon LI (2008) Hematopoiesis: an evolving paradigm for stem cell biology. *Cell* 132(4):631-644.
- 2. Dzierzak E & Speck NA (2008) Of lineage and legacy: the development of mammalian hematopoietic stem cells. *Nat Immunol* 9(2):129-136.
- 3. Huang HT, *et al.* (2013) A network of epigenetic regulators guides developmental haematopoiesis in vivo. *Nat Cell Biol* 15(12):1516-1525.
- 4. Sims JK & Wade PA (2011) SnapShot: Chromatin remodeling: CHD. *Cell* 144(4):626-626 e621.
- 5. Layman WS, Hurd EA, & Martin DM (2010) Chromodomain proteins in development: lessons from CHARGE syndrome. *Clin Genet* 78(1):11-20.
- 6. Forbes SA, *et al.* (2011) COSMIC: mining complete cancer genomes in the Catalogue of Somatic Mutations in Cancer. *Nucleic Acids Res* 39(Database issue):D945-950.
- 7. Tober J, Maijenburg MW, & Speck NA (2016) Taking the Leap: Runx1 in the Formation of Blood from Endothelium. *Curr Top Dev Biol* 118:113-162.
- 8. Bertrand JY, *et al.* (2010) Haematopoietic stem cells derive directly from aortic endothelium during development. *Nature* 464(7285):108-111.
- 9. Kissa K & Herbomel P (2010) Blood stem cells emerge from aortic endothelium by a novel type of cell transition. *Nature* 464(7285):112-115.
- 10. Boisset JC, *et al.* (2010) In vivo imaging of haematopoietic cells emerging from the mouse aortic endothelium. *Nature* 464(7285):116-120.
- 11. Eliades A, et al. (2016) The Hemogenic Competence of Endothelial Progenitors Is Restricted by Runx1 Silencing during Embryonic Development. *Cell reports* 15(10):2185-2199.
- 12. Yzaguirre AD, Howell ED, Li Y, Liu Z, & Speck NA (2018) Runx1 is sufficient for blood cell formation from non-hemogenic endothelial cells in vivo only during early embryogenesis. *Development* 145(2).
- 13. Link KA, Chou FS, & Mulloy JC (2010) Core binding factor at the crossroads: determining the fate of the HSC. *J Cell Physiol* 222(1):50-56.
- 14. Liu ZZ, et al. (2018) Chd7 Is Critical for Early T-Cell Development and Thymus Organogenesis in Zebrafish. *Am J Pathol* 188(4):1043-1058.
- 15. Yokomizo T, *et al.* (2012) Whole-mount three-dimensional imaging of internally localized immunostained cells within mouse embryos. *Nat Protoc* 7(3):421-431.
- 16. Hurd EA, *et al.* (2007) Loss of Chd7 function in gene-trapped reporter mice is embryonic lethal and associated with severe defects in multiple developing tissues. *Mamm Genome* 18(2):94-104.
- 17. Oguro H, Ding L, & Morrison SJ (2013) SLAM family markers resolve functionally distinct subpopulations of hematopoietic stem cells and multipotent progenitors. *Cell Stem Cell* 13(1):102-116.
- 18. Dexter TM, Allen TD, Scott D, & Teich NM (1979) Isolation and characterisation of a bipotential haematopoietic cell line. *Nature* 277(5696):471-474.
- 19. Schutte J, *et al.* (2016) An experimentally validated network of nine haematopoietic transcription factors reveals mechanisms of cell state stability. *Elife* 5:e11469.
- 20. Zhen T, *et al.* (2017) Chd7 deficiency delays leukemogenesis in mice induced by Cbfb-MYH11. *Blood* 130(22):2431-2442.
- 21. Shigesada K, van de Sluis B, & Liu PP (2004) Mechanism of leukemogenesis by the inv(16) chimeric gene CBFB/PEBP2B-MHY11. *Oncogene* 23(24):4297-4307.
- 22. Okuda T, *et al.* (2000) Biological characteristics of the leukemia-associated transcriptional factor AML1 disclosed by hematopoietic rescue of AML1-deficient embryonic stem cells by using a knock-in strategy. *Mol Cell Biol* 20(1):319-328.

- 23. Bajpai R, *et al.* (2010) CHD7 cooperates with PBAF to control multipotent neural crest formation. *Nature* 463(7283):958-962.
- 24. Bouazoune K & Kingston RÉ (2012) Chromatin remodeling by the CHD7 protein is impaired by mutations that cause human developmental disorders. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 109(47):19238-19243.
- 25. Hyde RK, Zhao L, Alemu L, & Liu PP (2015) Runx1 is required for hematopoietic defects and leukemogenesis in Cbfb-MYH11 knock-in mice. *Leukemia* 29(8):1771-1778.
- 26. Sood R, *et al.* (2010) Development of multilineage adult hematopoiesis in the zebrafish with a runx1 truncation mutation. *Blood* 115(14):2806-2809.
- 27. Cai X, *et al.* (2011) Runx1 loss minimally impacts long-term hematopoietic stem cells. *PLoS One* 6(12):e28430.
- 28. Wang Q, *et al.* (1996) Disruption of the *Cbfa2* gene causes necrosis and hemorrhaging in the central nervous system and blocks definitive hematopoiesis. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 93:3444-3449.
- 29. Schnetz MP, *et al.* (2010) CHD7 targets active gene enhancer elements to modulate ES cell-specific gene expression. *PLoS Genet* 6(7):e1001023.
- 30. Shen H, *et al.* (2008) Distinct activities of the DExD/H-box splicing factor hUAP56 facilitate stepwise assembly of the spliceosome. *Genes Dev* 22(13):1796-1803.
- 31. North TE, et al. (2007) Prostaglandin E2 regulates vertebrate haematopoietic stem cell homeostasis. *Nature* 447(7147):1007-1011.
- 32. Zhu H, *et al.* (2005) Regulation of the Imo2 promoter during hematopoietic and vascular development in zebrafish. *Dev Biol* 281(2):256-269.
- 33. Traver D, *et al.* (2003) Transplantation and in vivo imaging of multilineage engraftment in zebrafish bloodless mutants. *Nat Immunol* 4(12):1238-1246.
- 34. Huang H, Zhang B, Hartenstein PA, Chen JN, & Lin S (2005) NXT2 is required for embryonic heart development in zebrafish. *BMC Dev Biol* 5:7.
- 35. Choi J, *et al.* (2007) FoxH1 negatively modulates flk1 gene expression and vascular formation in zebrafish. *Dev Biol* 304(2):735-744.
- 36. Jing L, *et al.* (2015) Adenosine signaling promotes hematopoietic stem and progenitor cell emergence. *J Exp Med* 212(5):649-663.
- 37. Stadtfeld M & Graf T (2005) Assessing the role of hematopoietic plasticity for endothelial and hepatocyte development by non-invasive lineage tracing. *Development* 132(1):203-213.
- 38. Landrette SF, *et al.* (2005) Plag1 and Plagl2 are oncogenes that induce acute myeloid leukemia in cooperation with Cbfb-MYH11. *Blood* 105(7):2900-2907.
- 39. Chen MJ, Yokomizo T, Zeigler BM, Dzierzak E, & Speck NA (2009) Runx1 is required for the endothelial to haematopoietic cell transition but not thereafter. *Nature* 457(7231):889-891.
- 40. Lewandoski M, Meyers EN, & Martin GR (1997) Analysis of Fgf8 gene function in vertebrate development. *Cold Spring Harb Symp Quant Biol* 62:159-168.
- 41. Thisse C & Thisse B (2008) High-resolution in situ hybridization to whole-mount zebrafish embryos. *Nat Protoc* 3(1):59-69.
- 42. Schindelin J, et al. (2012) Fiji: an open-source platform for biological-image analysis. Nat Methods 9(7):676-682.
- 43. Hu Y & Smyth GK (2009) ELDA: extreme limiting dilution analysis for comparing depleted and enriched populations in stem cell and other assays. *Journal of immunological methods* 347(1-2):70-78.
- 44. Tober J, Yzaguirre AD, Piwarzyk E, & Speck NA (2013) Distinct temporal requirements for Runx1 in hematopoietic progenitors and stem cells. *Development* 140(18):3765-3776.

- 45. Li Y, *et al.* (2014) Inflammatory signaling regulates embryonic hematopoietic stem and progenitor cell production. *Genes Dev* 28(23):2597-2612.
- 46. Mohtashami M, Zarin P, & Zuniga-Pflucker JC (2016) Induction of T Cell Development In Vitro by Delta-Like (DII)-Expressing Stromal Cells. *Methods Mol Biol* 1323:159-167.
- 47. Hyde RK, et al. (2010) Cbfb/Runx1 repression-independent blockage of differentiation and accumulation of Csf2rb-expressing cells by Cbfb-MYH11. Blood 115(7):1433-1443.
- 48. Kamikubo Y, *et al.* (2013) The C-terminus of CBFbeta-SMMHC is required to induce embryonic hematopoietic defects and leukemogenesis. *Blood* 121(4):638-642.
- 49. O'Neil J, *et al.* (2006) Activating Notch1 mutations in mouse models of T-ALL. *Blood* 107(2):781-785.
- 50. Tang Y-Y, *et al.* (2000) Energetic and functional contribution of residues in the core binding factor b (CBFb) subunit to heterodimerization with CBFa. *The Journal of biological chemistry* 275:39579-39588.
- 51. Kettenbach AN, *et al.* (2011) Quantitative phosphoproteomics identifies substrates and functional modules of Aurora and Polo-like kinase activities in mitotic cells. *Sci Signal* 4(179):rs5.
- 52. Faherty BK & Gerber SA (2010) MacroSEQUEST: efficient candidate-centric searching and high-resolution correlation analysis for large-scale proteomics data sets. *Anal Chem* 82(16):6821-6829.
- 53. Elias JE & Gygi SP (2010) Target-decoy search strategy for mass spectrometry-based proteomics. *Methods Mol Biol* 604:55-71.
- 54. Wilson NK, *et al.* (2016) Integrated genome-scale analysis of the transcriptional regulatory landscape in a blood stem/progenitor cell model. *Blood* 127(13):e12-23.
- 55. Heinz S, *et al.* (2010) Simple combinations of lineage-determining transcription factors prime cis-regulatory elements required for macrophage and B cell identities. *Mol Cell* 38(4):576-589.
- 56. Picelli S, et al. (2014) Full-length RNA-seq from single cells using Smart-seq2. Nat Protoc 9(1):171-181.
- 57. Anders S, Pyl PT, & Huber W (2015) HTSeq--a Python framework to work with high-throughput sequencing data. *Bioinformatics* 31(2):166-169.
- 58. Love MI, Huber W, & Anders S (2014) Moderated estimation of fold change and dispersion for RNA-seq data with DESeq2. *Genome Biol* 15(12):550.
- 59. Wang W, et al. (2011) Rapid and efficient reprogramming of somatic cells to induced pluripotent stem cells by retinoic acid receptor gamma and liver receptor homolog 1. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 108(45):18283-18288.

Figure 1. Chd7 negatively regulates embryonic hematopoiesis. A, Chd7 knockdown increases expression of hematopoietic mesodermal precursor, primitive erythroid and myeloid but not early mesoderm genes. Representative embryos for whole mount in situ hybridization are shown, with additional genes shown in Appendix, Fig. S2. Regions of blood development are highlighted in red in the embryo schematic. Red arrows and arrowheads, increase. Grey arrows, no change. Scale bars = 50 µm. Replicates: 2. B, Chd7 knockdown increases expression of definitive HSPC and definitive myeloid and erythroid genes. Same descriptions as in panel a. C, Chd7 knockdown in  $T_{q}(myb:EGFP)$  embryos increases EGFP<sup>+</sup> cells in the dorsal aorta (DA) and tail region (left), quantified in graph (right) (n=53-55). Representative embryos shown from 3 independent replicates. **D**, *Chd7* deletion in mice increases Runx1<sup>+</sup>CD31<sup>+</sup>Kit<sup>+</sup> hematopoietic clusters detected by confocal imaging of E10.5 Chd7<sup>+/+</sup>, Chd7<sup>+/-</sup>, and Chd7<sup>t/f</sup>; Cdh5-Cre AGM regions. Representative clusters shown. i, one somite pair (sp) area; ii, individual cluster. E, Quantification of data from panel D (n=7-13). One-way ANOVA, Dunnett's multiple comparison test; # = comparator. F, Increased number of burst forming unit-erythroid (BFU-E) and granulocyte/monocyte progenitors (CFU-GM) in E10.5 Chd7<sup>+/-</sup> yolk sacs (n=8-14). GEMM, granulocyte/erythrocyte/monocyte/megakaryocyte progenitors. G, Reduced number of lymphoid progenitors in E10.5  $Chd7^{+/-}$  embryos (n=10-12). A+U+V =AGM, umbilical and vitelline arteries. **H**, Left: the number of erythroid progenitors (EryP) in the yolk sac of *Chd7<sup>f/f</sup>;Cdh5-Cre* embryos is not altered (n=14-15). Right: Both  $Chd7^{t}$  alleles were deleted in 65% of the colonies, and one allele was deleted in 27% of the colonies, thus Cdh5-Cre was active in the majority of EryP or their precursors (n=colonies from 6-8 yolk sacs). All graphs show mean ± s.d., unpaired twotailed *t*-test unless otherwise specified.

**Figure 2.** CHD7 regulates hematopoiesis cell autonomously. **A**, *Chd7* deficiency does not affect phenotypic LT-HSCs. Flow cytometry of LT-HSCs (CD48<sup>-</sup>CD150<sup>+</sup>), MPPs (CD48<sup>-</sup>CD150<sup>-</sup>), and HPC-1s (CD48<sup>+</sup>CD150<sup>-</sup>) from Lin<sup>neg</sup>Sca1<sup>+</sup>Kit<sup>+</sup> (LSK) bone marrow populations (left),

quantified in bar graph (right) (n=6-7). Mean  $\pm$  s.d., unpaired two-tailed *t*-test. **B**, Schematic diagram of mouse limiting dilution transplantation experiments. **C**, The frequency of functional CHD7 deficient LT-HSCs was increased 2-fold in whole BM (left) and in purified CD48<sup>-</sup> CD150<sup>+</sup>LSK cells (right) when  $\geq$ 1% donor contribution to Mac1<sup>+</sup> PB was scored at 4 months. LT-HSC frequency was calculated by ELDA (n=7-14 recipients per dose). **D**, Loss of CHD7 increases multilineage hematopoiesis. The top functional categories for genes upregulated in CHD7 deficient mouse LT-HSCs were enriched for hematopoietic related functions by IPA. Clusters of individual functional gene annotations (squares) belonging to each category are labeled numerically. Replicates: 4. **E**, Heatmap of representative lineage specific genes upregulated in CHD7 deficient CD48<sup>-</sup>CD150<sup>+</sup>LSK cells.

**Figure 3.** CHD7 cooperates with hematopoietic transcription factors to regulate hematopoiesis. **A**, CHD7 binding distribution in the murine 416B HPC cell line by ChIP-seq. Replicates: 2. **B**, Gene track of CHD7 binding overlaps with DNasel hypersensitive sites at the *Tal1* gene. **C**, Overlap of CHD7 binding and DNasel hypersensitive sites. **D**, Overlap of CHD7 binding and hematopoietic transcription factors. **E**, CHD7 binding sites are highly enriched for Ets, Runx, and Gata motifs by HOMER motif analysis. **F**, CHD7 binding is selectively lost from genomic regions where RUNX1 binding is attenuated by CBFB-MYH11. CBFB-MYH11 expression was induced in myeloid progenitor cells by doxycycline (Dox). RUNX1 occupancy in a i) control clone and ii) *CBFB-MYH11* expressing clone. Loss of CHD7 occupancy is iii) higher in regions of >4-fold RUNX1 occupancy loss and iv) minimally changed in regions of <2-fold RUNX1 occupancy loss. Black dotted line, no change (n.c.). Grey line, 2-fold change. Red line, 4-fold change. Replicate experiment shown in Appendix, Fig. S4B. **G**, Gene tracks showing loss of RUNX1 and CHD7 binding to *Evi5* (red arrows) in Dox induced *CBFB-MYH11* expressing cells.

Figure 4. CHD7 interacts with Runx1 and restrains RUNX1 activity. A, Scheme for identifying RUNX1-CBFβ interacting proteins in a murine T-ALL cell line. FLAG-tagged CBFβ containing two amino acid substitutions (red stars) that decrease RUNX1 binding was used as a negative control. **B**, CHD7 co-immunoprecipitates RUNX1-CBFβ but not CHD4 in murine T-ALL cells. I, input; S, depleted supernatant following immunoprecipitation; IP, immunoprecipitate. C, Deletions impinging on the RUNX1 activation domain decrease the interaction between RUNX1 and CHD7. CHD7 was immunoprecipitated, and Western blots probed with antibodies to CHD7 or FLAG. F-RUNX1, FLAG-RUNX1;  $\Delta$  deleted amino acids; F, vector expressing FLAG alone. Arrows indicate CHD7 (top panel) or full length and internally deleted RUNX1 proteins (bottom panel). D, C-terminal RUNX1 deletions. E, Summary of RUNX1 mapping experiments. RD, DNA and CBFβ-binding Runt domain; AD, transactivation domain; ID, inhibitory domain. F, Expression of *hCHD7* but not the catalytically dead mutant *hCHD7*<sup>K999R</sup> in zebrafish embryos reduces myb expression in the CHT by whole mount in situ hybridization. Representative embryos shown. Blue arrows, decrease. Grey arrows, no change. Scale bars = 50 µm. Replicates: 2. G. Mutation mapping of hCHD7 domains show the ATPase/helicase domain is required to suppress myb and runx1 expression in the CHT. Same descriptions as in panel F. H, Summary of hCHD7 mapping experiments. FL, full length. CD, chromodomain. HD, ATPase/helicase domain. SL/SD/BD, SLIDE/SANT/BRK domains. y, yes; n, no. Quantification of results from panels F, G are in Appendix, Fig. S2B.

**Figure 5.** CHD7 interacts genetically with RUNX1 to regulate hematopoiesis. **A**, *Chd7* and *Runx1* interact genetically to repress myelopoiesis in the spleen of adult mice by flow cytometric analysis (n=4). **B**, Restoration of primitive erythrocyte maturation with *Chd7* deletion in *Cbfb<sup>M</sup>* embryos with peripheral blood analysis by flow cytometry (n=6-42). Representative plots shown. Simplified genotypes are: *Chd7<sup>+/-</sup>* = *Chd7<sup>+/f</sup>;β-actin-Cre, Chd7<sup>-/-</sup>* = *Chd7<sup>f/f</sup>;β-actin-Cre, Cbfb<sup>+/M</sup>* =

*Cbfb*<sup>+/MYH11</sup>;*β*-actin-Cre. **C**, *Chd7* or *Runx1* deletion partially restores normal maturation of primitive erythrocytes in E10.5 embryos expressing the dominant neomorphic *Cbfb-MYH11* allele (*Cbfb<sup>M</sup>*). All values were significantly different as compared to *Cbfb*<sup>+/M</sup>. ANOVA and Dunnett's multiple comparison test. **D**, Expansion of myb<sup>+</sup> HSPCs in *chd7* morphant (MO) embryos is suppressed in *runx1*<sup>w84x</sup> mutants expressing truncated Runx1. Whole mount *in situ* hybridization of representative embryos shown, with phenotypic results quantified in bar graph (right). \**p* < 0.01 by Chi-square test. Red arrows, increase. Blue arrows, decrease. Scale bar = 50 µm. Replicates: 2. **E**, Overexpression of *hCHD7* suppresses the expansion of myb<sup>+</sup> HSPCs caused by heat-shock induced *runx1* overexpression. Same descriptions as in panel D.





D



9. Cellular development

- 17. Hereditary disorder

# Ε







