2 The T-box Transcription Factor Eomesodermin Governs 3 Hemogenic Competence of Yolk-Sac Mesodermal Progenitors 4 5 Luke T.G. Harland<sup>1</sup>, Claire S. Simon <sup>1,7</sup>, Anna D. Senft <sup>1,8</sup>, Ita Costello<sup>1</sup>, Lucas 6 Greder<sup>2</sup>, Ivan Imaz-Rosshandler <sup>3,4</sup>, Berthold Gottgens<sup>3</sup>, John C. Marioni<sup>4,5,6</sup>, 7 Elizabeth K. Bikoff <sup>1</sup>, Catherine Porcher<sup>2</sup>, Marella de Bruijn <sup>2,9</sup> and Elizabeth J. Robertson 1,9 10 1.Sir William Dunn School of Pathology, University of Oxford, South Parks Road, 11 Oxford, OX1 3RE, UK 12 2.MRCMolecular Haematology Unit, MRC Weatherall Institute of Molecular 13 Medicine, University of Oxford, John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, OX3 9DS, UK 14 3. Wellcome-MRC Cambridge Stem Cell Institute, Jeffrey Cheah Biomedical Centre, 15 University of Cambridge, Cambridge, CB2 0AW, UK 16 4. European Molecular Biology Laboratory, European Bioinformatics Institute (EMBL-17 EBI), Wellcome Genome Campus, Cambridge, CB10 1SD, UK. 18 5. Wellcome Sanger Institute, Wellcome Genome Campus, Cambridge, CB10 1SA, 19 UK. 20 6.CRUK Cambridge Institute, University of Cambridge, Robinson Way, Cambridge, CB2 0RE, UK. 22 7. Current address: Developmental Biology Program, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Centre, New York, NY10065, USA 24 8. Current address: National Institutes of Health/NICHD, 6 Center Drive, Bethesda, 25 MD 20892, USA 26 27 9.Corresponding authors. (E.J.R Elizabeth.robertson@path.ox.ac.uk; M.dB 28 marella.debruijn@imm.ox.ac.uk) 29 30 31 32

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<u>Abstract</u>

34 Extra-embryonic mesoderm (ExM), the earliest cells that traverse the primitive streak (PS), give rise 35 to the endothelium as well as hematopoietic progenitors in the developing yolk-sac (YS). How a 36 specific subset of ExM becomes committed to a hematopoietic fate remains unclear. Here we 37 demonstrate using an embryonic stem cell (ESC) model that transient expression of the T-box 38 transcription factor Eomesodermin (Eomes) governs hemogenic competency of ExM. Eomes 39 regulates the accessibility of enhancers that SCL normally utilizes to specify primitive erythrocytes 40 and is essential for the normal development of Runx1<sup>+</sup> hemogenic endothelium. Single-cell-RNA-seq 41 suggests that Eomes loss-of-function profoundly blocks formation of blood progenitors but not 42 specification of Flk-1<sup>+</sup> hematoendothelial progenitors. Our findings place Eomes at the top of the 43 transcriptional hierarchy regulating early blood formation and suggest that hemogenic competence is

## Introduction

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- The process of gastrulation generates the three primary embryonic germ layers, namely mesoderm,
- 47 ectoderm and definitive endoderm. Beginning at embryonic day 6 (E6.0), in response to local

endowed earlier during embryonic development than previously appreciated.

- 48 signaling cues, pluripotent epiblast cells on the prospective posterior side of the embryo undergo a
- 49 process of epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition allowing them to delaminate and migrate within the
- 50 PS<sup>1</sup>. The first cells that traverse the PS include progenitors of the ExM that migrate proximally to
- generate the developing YS<sup>1-3</sup>. ExM subsequently differentiates into endothelial cells that form the YS
- 52 vasculature as well blood progenitors that sustain growth and development of the post-implantation
- 53 embryo<sup>3, 4</sup>.
- 54 Hematopoietic progenitors initially form at E7.5 to generate nucleated primitive erythrocytes within the
- 55 distally located YS blood islands (BI)<sup>3</sup>. A day later a second wave of blood progenitors arise from a
- subset of endothelial cells present within the developing YS vasculature<sup>5</sup>. This so-called hemogenic
- 57 endothelium (HE) undergoes an endothelial-to-hematopoietic transition (EHT) whereby cells round
- up, detach from the endothelial layer and enter the blood stream<sup>6-8</sup>. Hematopoietic progenitors
- 59 derived from YS HE at E8.25 have restricted erythro-myeloid potential and generate enucleated
- 60 erythrocytes<sup>9</sup> and are therefore designated 'definitive'. Subsequently, at E10.5 a third wave of
- 61 hematopoietic progenitors including definitive hematopoietic stem cells (HSC) arise from HE in
- vascular beds of the dorsal aorta and vitelline/umbilical arteries<sup>7, 10</sup>.
- 63 Understanding the transcriptional hierarchy that guides hematopoiesis during embryogenesis is
- essential for the generation of hematopoietic progenitors from pluripotent stem cell sources in vitro<sup>11</sup>,
- 65 <sup>12</sup>. Of particular interest is how HE is specified as this represents a critical early step in the generation
- 66 of definitive hematopoietic cells including the HSC. Only a few transcriptional regulators that impact
- 67 hematopoietic output from HE have been identified, including the transcription factors (TF) SCL and
- Runx1 that play key roles during embryonic hematopoiesis. SCL is required for the specification of the
- 69 blood fate and the generation of HE and all hematopoietic cells<sup>13-17</sup>. In contrast, Runx1 is non-
- 70 essential for the generation of HE or primitive erythrocytes/megakaryocytes but is essential for EHT
- and the production of all definitive hematopoietic stem and progenitor cells<sup>18</sup>.

72 Here we report that the T-box TF Eomes is transiently expressed in ExM progenitors that generate 73 virtually all YS hematopoietic and endothelial cells. Using an ESC differentiation system, we find that 74 Eomes is essential for the production of primitive erythrocytes and Runx1<sup>+</sup> HE. Eomes is expressed prior to both SCL and Runx1 during mesoderm patterning. Single-cell RNA-seg (scRNAseg) 75 76 comparisons to in vivo hematoendothelial development strongly suggest the block in hematopoietic development in Eomes loss-of-function cultures occurs after the specification of Flk-1<sup>+</sup>/SCL<sup>+</sup> 77 78 hematoendothelial progenitors. ATAC-Seg experiments reveal that Eomes governs the accessibility of 79 Runx1 enhancers as well as cis-regulatory regions that SCL normally utilizes to specify primitive 80 erythrocytes. ChIP-seg experiments demonstrate that Eomes occupies Runx1 cis-regulatory regions 81 and coordinates the development of hemogenic competent mesoderm in the context of Activin/Nodal 82 and Tead-Yap signaling. Finally, re-expression of Runx1 in Eomes-null endothelial cultures is 83 sufficient to rescue the block in EHT and definitive blood production. Collectively, these experiments 84 demonstrate that Eomes sits at the top of the transcriptional hierarchy, functioning upstream of Runx1 85 expression and SCL functional activity, to promote hemogenic competence of the YS mesodermal 86 lineage.

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#### Results

- Eomes expression transiently marks the proximal epiblast, PS and Flk-1<sup>+</sup> ExM progenitors that give rise to hematopoietic and endothelial lineages of the YS
- The first wave of cells to traverse the PS give rise to ExM that migrates proximally, displacing the
- 92 overlying extra-embryonic ectoderm (ExE) to form the inner layer of the developing YS<sup>2, 3</sup>.
- 93 Subsequently these cells generate the BI containing primitive erythrocytes and endothelial cells that
- give rise to the YS vascular network<sup>3</sup> (Fig. 1a). The T-box TF factor brachyury (T) is expressed in the
- 95 PS and nascent mesoderm, including the hemangioblast, a multipotent progenitor that generates
- hematopoietic and endothelial cells<sup>19</sup>. Flk-1 also marks the hemangioblast<sup>19</sup> and *in vivo* fate mapping
- 97 studies demonstrate that YS hematopoietic and endothelial cells are derived from Flk-1<sup>+</sup> ExM<sup>20</sup>.
- 98 Here we observed that Eomes expression is detectable in proximal epiblast/PS cells at early/mid PS
- 99 stages (E6.5) prior to widespread T expression (Fig. 1b,c). Additionally, at mid-streak (E6.5) stages a
- 100 population of Flk-1<sup>+</sup> migratory mesoderm co-expressed Eomes in the extraembryonic region
- 101 (Extended Data Fig. 1a). To test whether Eomes expressing progenitors contribute to the ExM at later
- stages we performed short-term lineage tracing experiments using an Eomes GFP/+ reporter line<sup>21</sup>. At
- 103 E7.5 Eomes-GFP<sup>+</sup> cells detected within the YS BIs co-expressed Flk-1 (Fig. 1d) and the
- 104 ExM/hematopoietic marker Runx1 (Fig. 1e). However, this reflects GFP perdurance as endogenous
- 105 Eomes protein was no longer detectable in Eomes-GFP<sup>+</sup> (Fig. 1f) or Flk-1<sup>+</sup> cells in the YS at this
- 106 stage (Extended Data Fig. 1b).
- 107 To examine contributions made by Eomes-expressing cells to YS vascular and hematopoietic
- lineages we generated an *Eomes*<sup>iCre</sup> reporter allele (Extended Data Fig. 2a-e) and performed long-

109	term lineage tracing experiments. Eomes <sup>iCre/+</sup> males were mated to females carrying the ROSA26 <sup>R</sup>
110	allele <sup>22</sup> and the resulting embryos stained for LacZ expression. At E8.5 and E9.5 virtually all the YS
111	hematopoietic and endothelial cells in <i>Eomes<sup>iCre</sup>; ROSA26<sup>R</sup></i> embryos were LacZ <sup>+</sup> (Fig. 1g). Thus, we
112	conclude that transient Eomes expression marks ExM progenitors that give rise to the YS
113	hematopoietic and endothelial compartments.
114	To assess Eomes functional contributions we analyzed E7.5 embryos carrying an epiblast-specific
115	Eomes deletion (Eomes CA/N; Sox2.Cre) <sup>23</sup> that disrupts delamination of nascent mesoderm <sup>23</sup> . In
116	contrast to wild-type embryos, $Eomes^{\Delta Epi}$ mutant embryos fail to induce expression of Flk-1 and
117	ER71, genes essential for YS hematopoiesis and vasculogenesis <sup>24-26</sup> (Extended Data Fig. 2f). Thus,
118	Eomes expression in the epiblast is essential for the generation of ExM.
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120	Eomes is expressed transiently in hematovascular progenitors prior to the onset of SCL and
121	Runx1 expression during hematopoietic differentiation
122	To circumvent <i>in vivo</i> morphogenetic defects caused by Eomes functional loss, we exploited an <i>in</i>
123	vitro ESC differentiation protocol <sup>27, 28</sup> to promote the formation of YS-like hematopoietic and
124	endothelial progenitors via the staged addition of growth factors to embryoid bodies (EB) under serum
125	free conditions (Fig. 2a-c). Eomes <sup>21</sup> , SCL <sup>29</sup> and Runx1 (Extended Data Fig. 3a,b) expression were
126	analyzed utilizing ESC reporter lines. Dissociated EBs were stained for Flk-1 and PdgfRa, markers
127	that distinguish hematovascular mesoderm (Flk-1 <sup>hi</sup> /PdgfRa¯), primitive/cardiac mesoderm (Flk-
128	1 <sup>+</sup> /PdgfRa <sup>+</sup> ), and paraxial mesoderm (Flk-1 <sup>-</sup> /PdgfRa <sup>+</sup> ) and the hematopoietic marker CD41 <sup>26, 30-34</sup>
129	(Fig. 2d,e). Eomes-GFP was detectable at day 3 prior to expression of Flk-1/PdgfRa. The majority of
130	cells at day 4, including the Flk-1 <sup>hi</sup> /PdgfRa <sup>-</sup> hematovascular mesoderm compartment, express
131	Eomes-GFP (Fig. 2d). 24 hours later Eomes-GFP <sup>+</sup> cells comprise roughly half the Flk-1 <sup>hi</sup> /PdgfRa <sup>-</sup>
132	compartment (Fig. 2d). In contrast, developing CD41 <sup>+</sup> hematopoietic cells are predominantly Eomes-
133	GFP <sup>lo/-</sup> (Fig. 2e).
	the state of the s
134	At day 4 SCL-mCherry is exclusively expressed within the Flk-1 <sup>hi</sup> /PdgfRa <sup>-</sup> compartment (Fig. 2d). At
135	day 5 hematopoietic cells co-express CD41 and SCL-mCherry and downregulate Flk-1 expression
136	(Fig. 2d,e). Runx1-Venus is also expressed in CD41 <sup>+</sup> hematopoietic cells (Fig. 2e). However, in
137	contrast to SCL-mCherry, Runx1-Venus expression is restricted to cells that weakly express Flk-1
138	within the Flk-1 <sup>hi</sup> /PdgfRa <sup>-</sup> compartment at day 4/5 (Fig. 2d).
139	Consistent with above results, differentiation trajectories constructed using scRNAseq data from E6.5
140	to E8.5 mouse embryos <sup>15</sup> reveal dynamic Eomes expression in mesoderm/hematoendothelial
141	progenitors that give rise to SCL and Runx1 expressing hematopoietic and endothelial cells (Fig. 2f).
142	Thus, we conclude Eomes is transiently expressed, prior to SCL and Runx1, in hematovascular
143	mesoderm progenitors.

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145	Eomes functional loss disrupts primitive and definitive hematopoiesis but not endothelial
146	development
147	Next, we examined the ability of Eomes-null ESC <sup>23</sup> to generate hematovascular mesoderm (Fig. 3a).
148	Eomes-null EBs contain a detectable but decreased number of Flk-1 <sup>hi</sup> /PdgfRa <sup>-</sup> cells at day 4/5 and
149	lack Flk-1 <sup>+</sup> /PdgfRa <sup>+</sup> progenitors at day 4, reflecting Eomes requirements for cardiac mesoderm
150	specification <sup>35, 36</sup> (Fig. 3b). RNA-Seq experiments performed at day 4 reveal that Eomes-null Flk-
151	1 <sup>hi</sup> /PdgfRa <sup>-</sup> cells express SCL, ER71, Gata2, Lmo2, Tek, Cdh5, Fli1 and CD31 (Fig. 3c), suggesting
152	that Eomes is non-essential for specification of hematovascular mesoderm. In contrast, EHT
153	regulators including Runx1 and Gfi1b, and genes expressed in erythroid cells (Gata1 and Hbb-bh1)
154	were downregulated (Fig. 3c).
155	To further examine Eomes functional requirements we cultured EBs for three more days in pro-
156	hematopoietic conditions (Fig. 3a, red). Wild-type cultures robustly form hematopoietic progenitors co-
157	expressing c-Kit, and/or CD41 and CD45, and generate primitive/definitive erythrocyte and
158	myeloid/mixed hematopoietic colonies (Fig. 3d,e). In contrast, Eomes-null cultures lack the ability to
159	form CD41 <sup>+</sup> /CD45 <sup>+</sup> cells and hematopoietic colonies (Fig. 3d,e). These cultures contain CD31 <sup>+</sup> /Cdh5 <sup>+</sup>
160	endothelial cells (Fig. 3f) and express normal levels of endothelial marker genes Cdh5, Flk-1, Flt-1
161	and Fli-1 (Fig. 3,g). However, SCL, Runx1, PU.1, Gata1 and Hbb-bh1 transcripts at day 6 were
162	markedly downregulated confirming a block in hematopoiesis (Fig. 3g).
163	To further explore Eomes functional contributions Flk-1 <sup>hi</sup> cells were isolated at day 5 and plated on
164	Matrigel under conditions known to promote HE development <sup>37</sup> (Fig. 3a, blue). By day 8 wild-type Flk-
165	1 <sup>hi</sup> cells give rise to patches of adherent Cdh5 <sup>+</sup> /c-Kit <sup>+</sup> HE cells that actively undergo EHT to generate
166	semi-adherent and floating CD41 <sup>+</sup> /CD45 <sup>+</sup> hematopoietic cells (Fig. 3h,i). Eomes-null Flk-1 <sup>hi</sup> cells
167	generate Cdh5 <sup>+</sup> /c-Kit <sup>+</sup> endothelium but these cells fail to efficiently undergo EHT and lack expression
168	of the hematopoietic markers CD41/CD45 (Fig. 3i). Thus, we conclude Eomes is dispensable for the
169	generation of endothelial cells but is essential for both primitive and definitive hematopoietic
170	development.
171	
172	Eomes is essential for the generation of Runx1 <sup>+</sup> hemogenic endothelium
173	Defects observed above in Eomes-null ESCs closely resemble those reported for SCL mutants <sup>13</sup> .
174	Therefore, next we re-generated the Eomes-null allele in ESCs that contain an SCL reporter allele <sup>29</sup>
175	(Extended Data Fig. 4a-c) to directly test Eomes requirements for SCL expression. At day 5 of
176	differentiation many Eomes-null Flk-1 <sup>hi</sup> /PdgfRa <sup>-</sup> cells are SCL-mCherry <sup>+</sup> (Fig. 4a) and a day later a
177	high proportion of c-Kit <sup>+</sup> /Cdh5 <sup>+</sup> cells expressed wild-type levels of SCL-mCherry (Fig. 4b). Thus, the

block in primitive and definitive hematopoiesis observed in Eomes-null cultures cannot be explained 178 179 simply due to loss of SCL expression. Runx1 expression is required for EHT and the generation of definitive hematopoietic cells<sup>18</sup>. To 180 181 assess whether the block in definitive hematopoiesis in Eomes-null cultures reflects the absence of 182 HE, we disrupted Eomes expression in the Runx1-Venus reporter ESCs (Extended Data Fig. 4a-c). At 183 day 5 Eomes-null EBs almost entirely lack Runx1-Venus expression (Fig. 4c). At day 8, Runx1-Venus expression normally marks a CD41<sup>-/lo</sup> HE subset within the c-Kit<sup>+</sup>/Cdh5<sup>+</sup> compartment (Fig. 4d, blue 184 185 gate). Upon EHT, cells upregulate CD41, generating Runx1-Venus<sup>+</sup>/CD41<sup>+</sup> hematopoietic cells (Fig. 4d, green gate). Strikingly, Eomes-null EHT cultures lack Runx1-Venus<sup>†</sup>cKit<sup>†</sup>/Cdh5<sup>†</sup> HE (Fig4d, blue 186 187 gate). Eomes-null Runx1-Venus day 5 EBs and day 8 EHT cultures lack clonogenic progenitors for 188 primitive erythrocyte and definitive erythro-myeloid lineages, respectively (Fig. 4e), as well as Cdh5-/CD41<sup>+</sup>/Runx1-Venus<sup>+</sup> cells (Fig. 4d, orange gate) and budding cells (Fig. 4f). We conclude that the 189 190 block in definitive hematopoiesis in Eomes-null EHT cultures is associated with the loss of Runx1+ HE. 191 To test whether Eomes regulates Runx1 expression in a cell autonomous fashion, we performed co-192 193 culture experiments. Wild-type ESCs were mixed with Runx1-Venus or Eomes-null Runx1-Venus 194 ESCs (Extended Data Fig. 3c). Wild-type:Runx1-Venus co-cultures at day 6 contain CD41<sup>+</sup> hematopoietic cells that are Runx1-Venus<sup>+</sup>. In contrast, Runx1-Venus expression in CD41<sup>+</sup> cells is 195 barely detectable in Eomes-null Runx1-Venus:wild-type co-cultures. These results strongly suggest 196 197 that Eomes promotes robust induction of Runx1 expression in a cell-autonomous fashion during 198 hematopoiesis. 199 200 201 202 203 Eomes influences chromatin accessibility at SCL bound enhancers in hematovascular 204 mesoderm To investigate Eomes-dependent chromatin accessibility we performed ATAC-Seg<sup>38</sup> analysis of day 4 205 wild-type and Eomes-null Flk-1<sup>hi</sup>/PdgfRa<sup>-</sup> hematovascular mesoderm. We identified changes at 4180 206 genomic locations corresponding to ~7% of all accessible sites (Fig. 5a). The majority of sites (>85%) 207 208 showing reduced chromatin accessibility in Eomes-null cells were located in distal intergenic regions 209 (Fig. 5a) and are enriched for binding motifs for hematopoietic regulators such as Gata1/2, SCL, Erg, 210 Ets1, Fli1, Runx1, Meis1 and Gfi1b (Fig. 5b). Strikingly, when these peaks were compared to published ChIP-Seq datasets from FIk-1<sup>+</sup> cells generated using a hematopoietic differentiation 211 protocol<sup>39</sup>, we found that the majority of Eomes-dependent sites with reduced accessibility were 212

213 enriched for enhancer marks (H3K4Me1 and H3K27Ac) and SCL occupancy (Fig. 5c). Moreover, 214 sites showing reduced accessibility that correlate with SCL occupancy are enriched for genes related 215 to hematopoietic development (Fig. 5d). Of these 231 are associated with downregulated genes in 216 Eomes-null Flk-1<sup>hi</sup>/PdgfRa<sup>-</sup> cells including Gata1 and Nfe2, which are critical for primitive erythrocyte development and those governing EHT and definitive hematopoiesis, namely Runx1, Gfi1/1b, Ikzf1 217 218 and Myb (Fig. 5e). Many of the changes in chromatin accessibility map to previously identified enhancer regions at these loci (Fig. 5f)<sup>40, 41</sup>. Consistent with results above there was no noticeable 219 impact on chromatin accessibility at the SCL locus (Fig. 5f). These results demonstrate that Eomes 220 221 regulates accessibility at SCL-bound *cis*-regulatory elements. 222 223 Sites co-occupied by Eomes, Tead4 and Smad2/3 are transiently marked by H3K27Ac during 224 early stages of hematopoietic development 225 To facilitate identification of Eomes target genes we generated ESCs expressing C-terminally V5-226 tagged Eomes (Eo-V5) (Extended Data Fig. 5a-c,f). Intracellular flow cytometry demonstrated that Eo-227 V5 expression peaked at day 4 during hematovascular mesoderm development (Extended Data Fig. 228 5d). Eo-V5 is expressed broadly in primitive/cardiac mesoderm (Flk-1\*/PdgfRa\*) as well as a subset 229 of developing hematovascular (Flk-1<sup>hi</sup>/PdgfRa ) mesodermal cells (Extended Data Fig. 5e). 230 Homozygous Eo-V5 EB cultures generate Flk-1\*/PdgfRa\* primitive/cardiac mesoderm and c-Kit<sup>+</sup>/CD41<sup>+</sup> hematopoietic progenitors, confirming that Eomes-V5 functions normally (Extended Data 231 232 Fig. 5g). 233 We used two independent Eo-V5 ESC clones (CL A and CL B) for ChIP-Seq analysis. V5-Eomes 234 bound genomic regions common to both clones (Fig. 6a) were highly enriched for the Eomes binding motif<sup>42</sup> and were predominantly located >5 kb from transcriptional start sites (Fig. 6b). 30% of genes 235 linked to ChIP peaks were found to be mis-regulated in day 4 Flk-1<sup>hi</sup>/PdgfRa<sup>-</sup> Eomes-null cells 236 including transcriptional regulators (Runx1, Mixl1, Klf5, Pbx1, Tbx3, Foxf1, Meis2) and signaling 237 238 molecules (Dkk1, Gli2, Fzd7, Lefty2) controlling hematovascular development<sup>27, 43-48</sup> (Fig. 6c). Next, we examined published ChIP-Seq datasets 49,50 to assess co-occupancy by transcriptional 239 240 regulators, DNase hypersensitivity sites and local histone marks during hematopoietic differentiation 241 (Fig. 6d). The majority of Eomes occupied sites were marked by H3K27Ac and display DNase hypersensitivity in hemangioblasts (T<sup>+</sup>/Flk-1<sup>+</sup>) but not hematopoietic progenitors (CD41<sup>+</sup>) (Fig. 6d). 242 243 Strikingly, many are also co-bound by Smad2/3 and the TF Tead4 (Fig. 6d). Overlapping Eomes, 244 Smad2/3 and Tead4 peaks identified 72 sites corresponding to genes associated with hematopoiesis and mesoderm development (Fig. 6e). We observe co-occupancy at genes down-regulated in day 4 245 Flk-1<sup>hi</sup>/PdqfRa<sup>-</sup> Eomes-null EBs (Fig 6c) including the promoter region of Mixl1, previously shown to 246 regulate the generation of Flk-1+ hematopoietic mesoderm<sup>32, 42, 44, 51</sup> and putative *cis*-regulatory 247

elements controlling Dkk1 and Tbx3 expression (Fig. 6h). Eomes, Tead4 and Smad2/3 co-occupy a

potential cis-regulatory region 181kb upstream of the Runx1 TSS locus marked transiently by

H3K27Ac (Fig. 6h). Recent ChIP-seq experiments<sup>51</sup> confirm Eomes occupancy at this -181kb region (Extended Data Fig. 6) as well as the Runx1 proximal promoter (P2) that is active in HE<sup>52</sup> and several Runx1 enhancers (+110, +171, +204, -327) known to regulate expression during hematopoiesis 40,53 (Extended Data Fig. 6). Eomes induction also rescues Runx1 expression in this context<sup>51</sup> suggesting that Eomes directly regulates Runx1 expression. Finally, we overlaid our day 4 Eomes ChIP-Seq peaks with the ATAC-Seq peaks with reduced accessibility in day 4 Flk-1hi/PdgfRa Eomes-null mesoderm as well SCL ChIP-Seq peaks from day 4 wild-type Flk-1<sup>+</sup> EBs<sup>39</sup>. Very few of the ATAC peaks (33/3629) or SCL ChIP Peaks (19/4393) are bound by Eomes at day 4 (Extended Data Fig. 7a). Interestingly, Eomes ChIP peaks are accessible at early mesodermal (T<sup>+</sup>/Flk-1<sup>-</sup>) stages of development and become marked by H3K27Ac after the onset of Flk-1 expression<sup>49</sup> (Extended Data Fig. 7b). By contrast, Eomes-dependent ATAC peaks normally bound by SCL only become accessible in the hemangioblast (T<sup>+</sup>/Flk-1<sup>+</sup>) population<sup>49</sup> (Extended Data Fig. 7b). These results suggest that Eomes-dependent SCL bound cis-regulatory regions become accessible only subsequent to Eomes functional activity at earlier stages in the hematopoietic differentiation pathway.

## Single-cell RNA-Seq reveals the stage at which hematopoietic development is blocked in Eomes loss-of-function cultures

To characterize the stage when hematopoietic development is blocked in Eomes loss-of-function cultures we performed scRNA-seq on Eomes-null and wildtype Flk-1<sup>hi</sup>/PdgfRa<sup>-</sup> populations at day 4 and day 5 (Extended Data Fig. 8a). An integrated analysis<sup>54</sup> was performed that allowed uniform manifold approximation and projection (UMAP), and the identification of 13 clusters (Extended Data Fig. 8). Cluster identities were determined by comparing marker genes conserved across genotypes (Supplementary Table 1) to those previously used to document discrete cell populations present in E6.5 to E8.5 mouse gastrulation atlas<sup>15</sup>. Additionally, we were able to map the *in vitro* derived cells onto the mouse gastrulation atlas<sup>15</sup>, allowing us to transfer cell identities and embryonic stages onto our scRNA-seq dataset (Fig. 7a-d).

Cells from day 4 EBs were found mainly in clusters 2-6 (Extended Data Fig. 8b,c) and resembled *in vivo* mixed mesoderm and hematoendothelial progenitors (Fig. 7a) that express T, Mixl1, ER71 and SCL (Fig. 7b, Extended Data Fig. 8e). By contrast, day 5 cells mainly contributed to clusters 7-13 (Extended Data Fig. 8b,c) that resembled *in vivo* hematoendothelial progenitors, endothelium, allantois and blood progenitors 1 and 2 (Fig. 7a) and expressed varying levels of Runx1, Gata1, Cdh5, Pecam1 and Spin2c (Fig. 7b, Extended Data Fig. 8e). Day 4 Eomes-null and wild-type cells contributed relatively equally to mesodermal/hematoendothelial progenitor clusters 2-6 (Extended Data Fig. 8c). By contrast, day 5 Eomes-null cells predominately contributed to the hematoendothelial progenitor, endothelial and allantoic clusters (9-13) at the expense of blood progenitor clusters (7 and 8; Extended Data Fig. 8c). The exceptional Eomes-null cells contributing to clusters 7 and 8

287	expressed hematovascular genes SCL, ER71, Cdh5 and CD31 but had reduced expression of EHT
288	regulators Runx1/Gfi1b (Extended Data Fig. 8e,f). Interestingly, many Eomes-null Flk-1 <sup>hi</sup> /PdgfRa <sup>-</sup> cells
289	display transcriptional profiles similar to endothelial cells and hematoendothelial progenitors from
290	E7.75-E8.5 mouse embryos (Fig. 7d). Mapping cells onto the <i>in vivo</i> hematoendothelial differentiation
291	trajectory of the mouse gastrulation atlas 15 (cf. Fig. 2f) suggests that the developmental block in
292	Eomes-null cultures reflects the failure of hematoendothelial progenitors to transition into blood
293	progenitors 1/2 (Fig. 7e).
294	
295	Runx1 re-expression in Eomes-/- EHT cultures rescues the production of definitive
296	hematopoietic progenitors
297	Day 5 Eomes-null Flk-1 <sup>hi</sup> /PdgfRa <sup>-</sup> cultures contain endothelial cells (Fig. 7a,e, Extended Data Fig. 8c)
298	but could not form Runx1 <sup>+</sup> HE (Fig. 4d). Both Runx1-null and Eomes-null ESCs generate a
299	Cdh5 <sup>+</sup> /cKit <sup>+</sup> /CD41 <sup>lo</sup> population (Extended Data Fig. 9a,b). However, this population was absent from
300	equivalent SCL-null cultures (Extended Data Fig. 9a,b). To further characterize Eomes functional
301	contributions in relation to Runx1 we deleted Eomes in the context of a Runx1 inducible ESC line 14,52
302	(iRunx1; Runx1-null with a doxycycline (dox) inducible Runx1b cDNA inserted into the ROSA26 locus)
303	(Extended Data Fig. 4d,e). This strategy enabled us to drive Runx1 expression in Eomes-null EHT
304	cultures and perform rescue experiments.
305	As expected, day 5 iRunx1 Eomes-null EBs generate a Flk-1 <sup>hi</sup> /PdgfRa <sup>lo/-</sup> population (Fig. 8,a) but lack
306	primitive erythrocyte progenitors (Fig. 8b), highlighting differences in requirements for Runx1 and
307	Eomes during primitive erythropoiesis. As expected <sup>52</sup> , rescuing EHT and generation of functional
308	hematopoietic progenitors via enforced Runx1 expression is highly dose-dependent (Fig. 8c,d).
309	Titration experiments establish that the addition of 90 ng/mL of dox from day 6-8 in iRunx1 Eomes +/+
310	EHT cultures efficiently rescues generation of definitive erythro-myeloid clonogenic progenitors and
311	Cdh5 <sup>+</sup> /CD41 <sup>+</sup> and Cdh5 <sup>+</sup> /CD45 <sup>+</sup> cells (Fig. 8c,d and Extended Data Fig. 9c). Strikingly, these
312	conditions also rescue, albeit less efficiently, the generation of Cdh5 <sup>+</sup> /CD41 <sup>+</sup> and Cdh5 <sup>+</sup> /CD45 <sup>+</sup> cells
313	and restore hematopoietic colony formation in iRunx1 Eomes-null cultures (Fig. 8c,d and Extended
314	Data Fig. 8c,d). These findings demonstrate that Eomes acts upstream of Runx1 expression during
315	definitive hematopoiesis.
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317	<u>Discussion</u>
318	Here we show in the absence of Eomes function Flk-1 <sup>+</sup> hematoendothelial progenitors are correctly
319	specified. However, upon further differentiation these progenitors cannot transition into primitive
320	erythrocytes or HE capable of expressing Runx1 and undergoing EHT (Fig. 8e). As judged by scRNA-
321	seq analyses these in vitro cells closely resemble those formed in vivo when hematopoiesis
322	predominates in the murine YS (F7.5-F8.5). These results highlight the validity of using FSC

324 role for Eomes in this process. 325 Our ATAC-Seq analysis of Eomes-mutant hematoendothelial progenitors suggests that the block in 326 primitive erythrocyte development occurs because SCL can no longer access the enhancer network through which it normally specifies this lineage. SCL itself is not responsible for governing 327 accessibility of key enhancers that guide this process<sup>39</sup>. These enhancers only become accessible 328 329 during normal hematopoietic differentiation after the onset of Flk-1 expression. Eomes expression 330 precedes Flk-1/SCL expression during hematoendothelial development. Thus, Eomes potentially functions as a pioneer factor opening SCL enhancers to direct primitive erythrocyte development. Our 331 332 ChIP-Seq results, however, argue against this idea since the majority of SCL-bound enhancers are 333 not occupied by Eomes. 334 Recent experiments demonstrate that hemogenic competency of YS endothelial progenitors is actively restrained via BMI1-dependent silencing of Runx1 expression<sup>55</sup>. Additionally, re-expression of 335 Runx1 in non-HE cells is sufficient for their conversion into HE<sup>56, 57</sup>. Therefore, Runx1 is sufficient to 336 promote conversion of YS endothelium towards a hemogenic fate. Here we demonstrate that Eomes 337 338 acts upstream of Runx1 expression in the HE lineage. Moreover, Runx1 re-expression in Eomes-null cultures rescues the formation of definitive hematopoietic progenitors. ChIP-seq in day 4/5 EBs 339 reveals Eomes occupancy at the Runx1 proximal promoter P2 as well as previously described 40,53 340 (+110, +171, +204, -327) and potentially novel (-171/-181) Runx1 enhancers. Furthermore, ATAC-seq 341 demonstrates that hematoendothelial progenitors formed in the absence of Eomes lack chromatin 342 accessibility at enhancers known to drive Runx1 expression in the HE lineage/sites of definitive 343 hematopoiesis<sup>40, 58</sup> (+3, +23, +110, -322, -327). Considering that YS endothelial cells are derived from 344 345 Eomes expressing precursors, Eomes likely endows hemogenic competence via its ability to allow 346 Runx1 induction at later developmental stages within the endothelial lineage. Thus, Eomes directs the 347 emergence of an epigenetic landscape that primes HE specification. 348 The majority of Eomes ChIP-Seq peaks are located at cis-regulatory regions active transiently during 349 mesodermal stages of development. Strikingly, many of these Eomes bound sites are co-occupied in 350 similar stage EBs by Tead4 and Smad2/3, TFs that act downstream of Hippo/YAP and Activin/Nodal signalling respectively and have been shown previously to regulate hematopoietic development<sup>27, 28,</sup> 351 <sup>31, 49, 59</sup>. Computational analysis shows that sites co-bound by this triad of TFs are associated with 352 genes regulating both mesoderm and blood cell development. Interestingly, disruption of Tead-YAP 353 complex formation profoundly disrupts EHT and the generation of CD41<sup>+</sup> cells<sup>49</sup>. Additionally, Tead 354 355 signalling is essential during mesodermal stages of development, coincident with the onset of Eomes functional activity<sup>49</sup>. It therefore seems likely that Eomes guides hematopoietic mesoderm 356 development in the context of active Activin/Nodal and Tead/YAP signalling. 357 Fate mapping studies previously suggested that YS hematopoietic and endothelial lineages become 358 segregated within the proximal epiblast, prior to ingression through the PS<sup>2, 60</sup>. The first cells to 359 ingress through the streak predominantly generate primitive hematopoietic cells whilst the second 360

differentiation cultures as a model of YS hematopoiesis and have allowed us to uncover an essential

wave generates endothelial precursors<sup>2</sup> that subsequently acquire HE or non-HE fates. Conditional inactivation of Eomes in the PS using a T.Cre deleter strain has no noticeable impact on embryonic development<sup>23</sup>. Therefore, Eomes is likely only required for YS hematopoiesis within a narrow developmental time window at the very outset of gastrulation in the proximal epiblast/PS. The present study makes Eomes the earliest known transcriptional regulator of specifically hematopoietic but not endothelial development, placing it at the top of a transcriptional hierarchy that governs hemogenic competence in the developing mouse gastrula.

## Main Figure Legends

- Figure 1. Eomes is expressed in extraembryonic mesodermal progenitors that give rise to yolk-sac hematopoietic and vascular cells.
- a, Schematic representation of mouse gastrulation. Extra-embryonic mesoderm (ExM) progenitors 381 migrate proximally from the primitive streak (PS, dotted line) and give rise to the blood islands (BI) of 382
- the developing yolk-sac (YS). ExE, extraembryonic ectoderm; Epi, epiblast; VE, visceral endoderm. b, 383
- c, Early/mid streak stage embryos (E6.5) stained for Brachyury (red) and Eomes (green) and 384
- counterstained with DAPI (blue); n = 19 embryos (E6.5) and n = 19 embryos (E7.5). The length of the 385
- PS is denoted by the dotted line. **d f**, Immunofluorescence staining of E7.5 Eomes GFP/+21 embryos 386
- 387 for Flk-1( $\mathbf{d}$ , red; n = 11 embryos), Runx1( $\mathbf{e}$ , red; n = 11 embryos), Eomes ( $\mathbf{f}$ , red n = 6 embryos) and
- Eomes-GFP (d-f, green). Nuclei are stained with DAPI (blue). Dotted white lines indicate the 388
- extraembryonic/embryonic boundary. White boxes denote the zoomed in areas displayed in the lower panels. **g**, Descendants of Eomes<sup>iCre</sup> expressing cells give rise to hematopoietic and endothelial cells 389
- 390
- of the YS BI. Mice carrying an improved Cre recombinase (iCre) inserted into the ATG start site at the 391
- Eomes locus were crossed to ROSA26R reporter mice that express LacZ upon Cre induced 392
- recombination. Wholemount X-gal staining was performed on E8.5 and E9.5 embryos and sections 393
- were counterstained with nuclear fast-red to highlight non-labelled cells;  $n \ge 3$  embryos. Scale bars, 394
- 395 100 μΜ.

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- 396 Figure 2. Eomes, SCL and Runx1 expression during hematopoietic development in vitro and in
- 397 vivo.
- 398 a, Schematic representation of the ESC differentiation protocol. b, c, Representative phase contrast
- 399 photomicrographs at day 0 (b) and day 4 (c) of the differentiation protocol;  $n \ge 3$  independent
- 400 differentiations. Scale bars, 100 μM. Embryoid body, EB. d, Flow cytometric analysis of EB cultures
- 401 generated from Eomes, SCL and Runx1 reporter ESC lines. Cells expressing the indicated

402 fluorescent reporters are shown by coloured dots. Eomes-GFP, yellow; SCL-mCherry, red; Runx1-Venus, green. The percentages of reporter positive cells within the circled Flk-1<sup>hi</sup>/PdgfRa cell 403 404 population are indicated (n=1 differentiation). e, Analysis of day 5 EBs showing fluorescent reporter 405 activity and expression of the hematopoietic marker CD41 (n=1 differentiation). f, Force-directed graph layout of cells isolated from E6.5 to E8.5 embryos associated with the blood/endothelial lineage 406 (adapted from Pijuan-Sala et al. 2019, Ref 15)15. Left plot highlights various cell-types that are 407 408 generated along the hematovascular lineage trajectory as mesoderm differentiates into endothelial and hematopoietic cells. Right plots are overlaid with Log<sub>2</sub> normalized gene expression levels. HE, 409 hematoendothelial. 410

## Figure 3. Eomes functional loss disrupts primitive and definitive hematopoiesis but not endothelial development

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413 a, ESC differentiation protocols modelling yolk-sac hematopoiesis differ from day 5 onwards (EB suspension culture, red and EHT culture, blue), b. Representative flow cytometric analysis of Flk-414 1/PdgfRa expression in wild-type (WT) and Eomes -- EBs at day 4/5. Graphical data indicate the mean 415 416 +/- SEM; n = 5 (WT D4), n = 7 (Eomes<sup>-/-</sup> D4), n = 8 (WT D5) amd n = 10 (Eomes<sup>-/-</sup> D5) independent 417 differentiations. c, Heatmap showing Log2(FPKM) expression of hematovascular genes in day 4 WT and Eomes - Flk-1<sup>hi</sup>/PdgfRa cells from n = 3 independent differentiations. d, Hematopoietic potential 418 of cells isolated from day5/6 WT and Eomes- EBs plated in hematopoietic colony-forming assays. 419 420 Graphical data indicate mean +/- SEM; n = 2 (day 5) and n = 3 (day 6) biologically independent 421 samples. Ery-P, primitive erythrocyte; Ery-D, definitive erythrocyte; GM, granulocyte-macrophage; 422 GEMM, granulocyte-erythro-myeloid. Scale bar, 100 µM. e, Representative flow cytometric analysis of cKit/CD41 and cKit/CD45 expression in day 7 WT and Eomes -/- EBs. Graphical data indicate mean +/-423 424 SEM; n = 3 biologically independent samples. f, Representative flow cytometric analysis of 425 Cdh5/CD31 expression in day 6 WT and Eomes -/- EBs. Graphical data indicate mean +/- SEM; n = 3 biologically independent samples. **g**, Log<sub>2</sub>Fold Change (Eomes<sup>-/-</sup> versus WT) of hematovascular 426 427 marker gene expression in day 6 EB cultures determined using reverse transcription quantitative PCR 428 (RT-qPCR); mean +/- SEM; n = 3 biologically independent samples. GAPDH was used as a 429 housekeeping gene. h, Representative phase contrast images of day 8 WT and Eomes - EHT cultures; n = 3 independent differentiations. Scale bars, 100 μM i, Representative flow cytometric 430 431 analysis of Cdh5 expression and cKit/CD41 or cKit/CD45 expression within the Cdh5+ compartment 432 in day 8 WT and Eomes<sup>-/-</sup> EHT cultures. Graphical data indicate mean +/- SEM; n = 3 independent differentiations. For all graphical representations of flow cytometry/colony-forming data individual 433 replicates are shown as coloured dots (WT = grey, Eomes<sup>-/-</sup> = pink). Statistical analyses were 434 performed using two-tailed unpaired Student's t-tests. Statistical source data are provided in Source 435 436 Data Fig. 3.

#### Figure 4. Eomes-null cultures lack Runx1+ hemogenic endothelial cells

a,c, Representative flow cytometric analysis of Flk-1/PdgfRa and SCL-mCherry (a) or Runx1-Venus (c) expression in day 5 WT and Eomes<sup>-/-</sup> EBs. Coloured dots indicate cells positive for the expression of fluorescent reporters. SCL-mCherry,red; Runx1-Venus, green. Histograms display SCL-mCherry (a) and Runx1-Venus (c) expression levels in the Flk-1<sup>h</sup>/PdgfRa compartment; grey peaks depict expression in a control cell line. Graphical data indicate mean +/- SEM: n = 3 (WT and Eomes -- SCLmCherry), n = 4 (WT Runx1-Venus) and n = 5 (Eomes<sup>-/-</sup> Runx1-Venus) independent differentiations. b. Representative flow cytometric analysis of CD41/SCL-mCherry expression within the Cdh5<sup>+</sup>/c-Kit<sup>+</sup> compartment in day 6 WT SCL-mCherry and Eomes-/- SCL-mCherry EBs. Graphical representations display mean +/- SEM; n = 3 independent differentiations. d, Representative flow cytometric analysis of Cdh5/cKit expression (left) and Runx1-Venus/CD41 expression within the Cdh5<sup>+</sup>/cKit<sup>+</sup> (middle) and Cdh5 (right) compartments in day 8 WT and Eomes - EHT cultures. Graphical representations indicate mean +/- SEM; n = 3 independent differentiations. e, Hematopoietic colony-forming potential of cells isolated from day 5 bulk EBs and day 8 EHT cultures plated in hematopoietic colony assays. Each dot displays the number of colonies formed in each technical replicate from n=2 independent differentiations; 2 technical replicates/independent differentiation. Ery-P, primitive erythrocyte; Ery-D, definitive erythrocyte; GM, granulocyte-macrophage; GEMM, granulocyte-erythro-myeloid. f, Representative phase contrast images of Runx1-Venus Eomes+/+ and Runx1-Venus Eomes-/- EHT cultures at day 8; n = 3 independent differentiations. Scale bars, 100 μM. For all graphical representations of flow cytometry individual replicates are shown as coloured dots (Eomes+/+ = grey

and Eomes<sup>-/-</sup> = pink). Statistical analyses were performed using unpaired two-tailed Student's t-tests.
Statistical source data are provided in Source Data Fig. 4.

#### Figure 5. Eomes regulates chromatin accessibility at SCL bound cis-regulatory regions

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462 a, Pie chart depicting the proportion of ATAC peaks that lose (blue) or gain (red) chromatin accessibility in Eomes<sup>-/-</sup> day 4 Flk-1<sup>hi</sup>/PdgfRa<sup>-</sup> cells. Bar chart depicting the distribution of ATAC peaks 463 464 located nearby transcriptional start sites (TSS) with unchanged (grey), reduced (blue) or increased (red) chromatin accessibility in day 4 Eomes '- vs. WT Flk-1 ' PdgfRa cells; n = 3 independent 465 466 differentiations. b, Sites of reduced chromatin accessibility in Eomes '- cells are enriched for 467 hematopoietic TF binding motifs. Statistical analyses were performed using AME (Analysis of Motif Enrichment). c, Heatmaps showing ATAC signals from WT (blue, left) or Eomes (blue, right) day 4 468 469 Flk-1<sup>h</sup>/PdgfRa cells and ChIP signal for H3K4Me1 (orange), H3K27Ac (red) and SCL (green) occupancy from day 4 WT Flk-1<sup>+</sup> cells<sup>39</sup>. Heatmaps show a 4kb flanking region surrounding sites of 470 reduced chromatin accessibility in day 4 Eomes - Flk-1hi/PdgfRa cells. d, Venn diagram depicting the 471 overlap of SCL bound regions<sup>39</sup> and sites of reduced chromatin accessibility. Enriched GO Terms in 472 the Mouse Phenotype category for the 949 shared genomic regions (purple). Statistical analyses were 473 474 performed using GREAT (Genomic Regions Enrichment Analysis Tool). e, MA plot highlighting genes 475 that are differentially expressed in Eomes<sup>7</sup> and WT hematovascular mesoderm (Flk-1<sup>nl</sup>/PdgfRa) that 476 have nearby sites of reduced chromatin accessibility (red and blue squares) that are also bound by 477 SCL in WT Flk-1<sup>+</sup> mesoderm<sup>39</sup> (orange and green squares), f, IGV snapshots of ATAC-Seg (blue) and ChIP-Seg (green) tracks highlighting hematopoietic regulators that have nearby genomic regions with 478 reduced chromatin accessibility in Eomes - Flk-1hi/PdgfRa cells that are also bound by SCL39 in WT 479 Flk-1<sup>+</sup> mesoderm are highlighted by purple bars. Numbers above the purple bars indicate the relative 480 location of these sites in kilobases to the TSS of the indicated genes. (\*the -3.5 enhancer at the Gata1 481 locus was called as a peak by MACS2 (p<0.05) in only the WT Flk-1<sup>hi</sup>/PdgfRa samples) 482

# Figure 6. Genomic regions transiently marked by H3K27Ac are bound by Eomes, Tead4 and Smad2/3 during early stages of hematopoietic mesoderm development.

a, Heatmaps of ChIP peaks in a 4kb region from day 4 EBs from two independent Eomes V5/V5 clones. 485 b, An Eomes consensus binding motif<sup>42</sup> identified using HOMER is enriched under ChIP-Seq peaks 486 (top). Bar graph (below) depicts the distribution of ChIP-Seq peaks relative to nearby transcriptional 487 start sites. c, Venn diagram showing the overlap between ChIP-Seg peak associated genes and 488 those differentially expressed (fold change >1.5X) in the Eomes <sup>/-</sup> Flk-1<sup>hi</sup>/PdgfRa hematovascular 489 mesoderm population. The top 24 genes having associated ChIP-Seq peaks significantly upregulated 490 (green, left) or downregulated (red, right) in Eomes -/- versus WT day 4 Flk-1hi/PdgfRa hematovascular 491 mesoderm are listed. Numbers indicate the fold change (FC). Orange genes have nearby 492 Smad2/3/Eomes overlapping peaks, purple genes have nearby Tead4/Eomes overlapping peaks and 493 494 blue genes have nearby Tead4/Eomes/Smad2/3 overlapping peaks. d, Heatmaps showing ChIP-Seq signal for Tead4 (purple)<sup>49</sup> and Smad2/3 (orange)<sup>50</sup> occupancy in day 3 or day 4 Flk-1<sup>+</sup> EB cultures, 495 respectively. Heatmaps showing ChIP-Seq signal for H3K27Ac (green) histone modifications in hemangioblast (HB) and hematopoietic (HP) cells<sup>49</sup>. Heatmaps showing DNAsel hypersensitivity 496 497 498 signal in hemangioblast (HB) and hematopoietic (HP) cells (Goode et al., 2016 Ref 50). All heatmaps show a 4kb region flanking peak centres of the 338 Eomes bound sites. e, Venn diagram depicting 499 500 the overlap of the Eomes, Smad2/3 and Tead4 bound regions. f, Tead2 and Tbox:Smad motifs identified using HOMER that are significantly enriched under the Eomes bound ChIP-Seq peaks. g, 501 502 Enriched GO Terms in the Mouse Phenotype category for the 72 Eomes, Smad2/3 and Tead4 503 overlapping genomic regions (blue). Statistical analyses were performed using GREAT (Genomic 504 Regions Enrichment Analysis Tool) h, IGV snapshots of Eomes, Tead4, Smad2/3 and H3K27Ac 505 ChIP-Seg peaks overlapping with DNase1 hypersensitivity (DN1 HS). Blue bars highlight Eomes 506 bound sites and the numbers above indicate the relative location of these sites in kilobases to the 507 TSS of the gene indicated. HB, hemangioblast (T\*/Flk-1\*); HP, hematopoietic progenitor (CD41\*).

# Figure 7. Comparison of scRNA-Seq profiles of wildtype and Eomes-null Flk1<sup>hi</sup>/PdgfRa cells generated *in vitro* to wildtype cells from E6.5 – E8.5 mouse embryos.

**a,** Mapped cell types in uniform manifold approximation and projection (UMAP) plots. Top panel shows WT and Eo-/- Flk-1<sup>hi</sup>/PdgfRa<sup>-</sup> cells from either day 4 (left) or day 5 (right). Bottom panel shows Flk-1<sup>hi</sup>/PdgfRa<sup>-</sup> cells from WT (left) or Eomes<sup>-/-</sup> (right). Cells are colored by their cell type annotation,

based on their 35 nearest neighbors in the mouse gastrulation atlas 15 denoted in the legend. The

514 black box (bottom panel) highlights blood progenitors that are diminished in the Eomes cultures.

PGC, primordial germ cell; WT, wildtype; Eo -/-, Eomes-null **b**, Normalized expression levels of the indicated genes overlaid on UMAPs for all cells. **c**, Mapped probability mapping scores in UMAP embeddings for all wildtype (left) and Eomes-/- (right) cells. A probability score >0.5 indicates high mapping quality. **d**, Mapped embryo stages in UMAP embeddings. Cells are coloured by the nearest mapped embryo stage from the mouse atlas as indicated in the legend below. Bar chart shows the number of wildtype (black) or Eomes-/- (grey) cells from each mapped embryo stage. E, embryonic stage. **e**, Mapping day 4/5 Flk-1<sup>hi</sup>/PdgfRa wildtype (top) and Eomes-/- (bottom) cells onto the blood-related differentiation trajectory<sup>15</sup>. The black arrowhead denotes the point at which hematopoietic development seems to be blocked in Eomes-/- cultures.

## Figure 8. Runx1 re-expression in Eomes-null/Runx1-null EHT cultures rescues definitive hematopoiesis.

a, Flow cytometric analysis of Flk-1/PdgfRa expression in day 5 iRunx1 Eomes<sup>+/+</sup> and iRunx1 Eomes EBs. **b.** Hematopoietic colony-forming potential of cells isolated from day 5 iRunx1 Eomes +/+ and iRunx1 Eomes - EBs. Graphical representation displays mean +/- SEM; n=3 independent differentiations and representative photomicrographs are shown on the right. Ery-P, primitive erythrocyte. Scale bar, 100 μM. Statistical analysis was performed using a two-tailed unpaired Student's t-test. c, Hematopoietic colony-forming potential of day 8 EHT cultures in which Runx1 expression was uninduced/induced via addition of 0, 90 and 300 ng/mL of dox from day 6-8. Graphical representations display mean +/- SEM; n = 2 (iRunx1 Eomes+/+) and n = 3 (iRunx1 Eomes -/-) independent differentiations. Ery-D, definitive erythrocyte; GM, granulocyte-macrophage; GEMM, granulocyte-erythrocyte-myeloid. H&E stained hematopoietic cells (bottom right) from a representative GEMM colony (brightfield, bottom left) from a dox induced iRunx1 Eomes - EHT culture. Mac, macrophage; n, neutrophil; e, erythrocyte. Scale bars: brightfield,100 μM; H&E, 20 μM. d, Representative flow cytometric analyses of cKit/CD41 and cKit/CD45 expression within the Cdh5+ compartment of day 8 EHT cultures in which Runx1 expression was uninduced or induced via addition of 0, 90 and 300 ng/mL of dox from day 6-8. Graphical representations indicate mean +/-SEM; n ≥ 3 independent differentiations. Statistical analyses were performed using a 2-way ANOVA and Tukey's multiple comparison test. Statistical source data are provided in Source Data Fig. 8. e. Model summarizing the effects of Eomes-loss-of-function on the two waves of YS hematopoiesis. Primitive erythrocyte formation depends on SCL and Eomes functional activity. The generation of hemogenic endothelium (HE) depends on SCL functional activity. EHT and the generation of definitive hematopoietic cells depends on the functional activity of Runx1 and Eomes. Eomes-/hematoendothelial progenitors (HEPs) lack chromatin accessibility at numerous enhancers that are normally bound by SCL and are therefore unable to transition into primitive erythrocytes. Eomes<sup>-/-</sup> hematoendothelial progenitors generate Cdh5+/cKit+/CD41<sup>lo</sup> "hemogenic" endothelial cells that fail to upregulate Runx1 expression (green) and this in part explains the block in definitive hematopoiesis in Eomes<sup>-/-</sup> EHT cultures.

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#### **Author Contributions**

- L.T.G.H, E.K.B, C.P, M.D.B and E.J.R designed the study. L.T.G.H, C.S, I.C, A.D.S performed the
- experiments. L.T.G.H, I.I.R, J.M and B.G performed scRNA-seq analyses. L.G generated the Runx1-
- 578 Venus reporter line. L.T.G.H, E.K.B, M.D.B and E.J.R wrote the manuscript with input from all the
- 579 authors.

#### Competing Financial Interests

The authors have no competing Financial interests

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#### **Methods**

#### Mouse strains

 Animal procedures were performed in accordance with Home Office (UK) regulations and approved by the Oxford Local Animal Welfare and Ethical Committee. Eomes GFP, Rosa26R, Eomes CA/N; Sox2 Cre and Flk-1 LacZ strains were genotyped as previously described 21-24. The Eomes GFP allele was generated using the same strategy as previously described 35. The iCre coding sequence followed by a polyA cassette and a loxP-flanked neomycin-resistance cassette was introduced into exon 1 between the SphI (translational start) and Eagl sites, resulting in removal of ~500bp of the endogenous 5' coding region of Exon 1. Drug-resistant ESC colonies screened by Southern blot using a 5' external probe were transfected with pMC1.Cre, to remove the selection cassette. Two independent excised ESC clones were used to generate germline chimeras. Offspring were genotyped by PCR using iCre specific primers (Supplementary Table 2).

## Immunostaining.

E6.5 embryos were fixed in 4% PFA at room temperature (RT) for 30 min. E7.5 embryos and day 4
EBs were fixed in 1% PFA overnight at 4°C. Samples were washed with 0.1% Triton-X, permeabilized
with 0.5% Triton-X in PBS for 15 min, washed with 0.1% Triton-X, blocked in 5% donkey serum, 0.2%
BSA and 0.1% Triton-X in PBS, incubated with primary antibodies in block solution, washed with 0.1%
Triton-X, incubated with fluorophore-conjugated secondary antibodies for 2 hrs at RT, washed with
0.1% Triton-X and counterstained with DAPI. Images were captured with an Olympus FV1000 and
collected using Olympus FluoView (version 4.2). Antibodies used are listed in Supplementary Table 3.

## Whole-mount in situ hybridization and LacZ staining.

E6.5-E7.5 embryos were subject to whole-mount *in situ* hybridization (WISH) using standard protocols <sup>61</sup> with probes against ER71 <sup>62</sup>, Eomes <sup>23</sup> and iCre (Supplementary Table 4). LacZ staining was performed according to standard protocols <sup>61</sup>. For histology, paraffin-embedded embryos were sectioned (8.0  $\mu$ m) and counterstained with Nuclear FastRed.

## ESC maintenance and differentiation.

WT (CCE), Runx1-Venus (E14), SCL-mCherry (J1)<sup>29</sup>, Eomes-null (CCE, Runx1-Venus, SCL-mCherry, iRunx1), SCL-null (J1)<sup>17</sup>, Runx1-null (J1)<sup>63</sup> and iRunx1<sup>14</sup> ESC lines were maintained in feeder free culture conditions as previously described<sup>35</sup>. 48-72 hrs prior to induction of hematopoietic differentiation cells were cultured in serum free ES media containing 50% Neurobasal Media (Gibco, Cat # 21103049), 50% DMEM/F12 (Gibco, Cat # 11320033), supplemented with 0.5X of both N2 (Gibco, Cat#17502048) and B27 (Gibco, Cat# 17504044), 1%Pen/Strep, 1% glutamine, 0.05% BSA (Gibco, Cat# 15260037), 1 μM PD0325091, 3 μM CHIR99021 and 1000 U/ml LIF. At D0 cells were

seeded at a density of 1×10<sup>5</sup> ml<sup>-1</sup> in serum-free differentiation (SF-D) media<sup>27</sup> and cultured on an orbital shaker at 70 rpm for ~18 hrs in the absence of growth factors to form EBs. At D2, EBs were split 1:3 in SF-D media containing recombinant human (rh) VEGF (5 ng ml<sup>-1</sup>; R&D Systems), rhBMP4 (10 ng ml<sup>-1</sup>; R&D Systems) and Activin A (5 ng ml<sup>-1</sup>; R&D Systems) for 48 hr. At D4, EBs were split 1:1 or 1:2 in SF-D media containing rhVEGF (5 ng ml<sup>-1</sup>; R&D Systems), rhBMP4 (10 ng ml<sup>-1</sup>; R&D Systems) and Activin A (5 ng ml<sup>-1</sup>; R&D Systems) for 24 hr. For bulk cultures, EBs were washed at D5 and D6 and cultured in SF-D media containing rhVEGF (5 ng ml<sup>-1</sup>; R&D Systems) and SCF (50 ng ml<sup>-1</sup> 1; BioLegend). From D4 onwards EBs were grown in petri dishes coated with 5% (v/v) Poly-heme solution (Sigma, Cat# P3932-10G). For EHT cultures, D5 EBs were dissociated with Trypsin-LE (Gibco), stained with anti-Flk-1 (APC) antibody (Supplementary Table 3) for 30 min on ice and Flk-1\* cells isolated by MACS using anti-APC microbeads (Miltenvi, Cat# 130-090-855) were plated on Matrigel (Corning, Cat# 354230) coated 96 or 12 well plates at a concentration of 5×10<sup>4</sup> cells/200 μl in SF-D containing rhVEGF (5 ng ml<sup>-1</sup>; R&D Systems), rhbFGF (10 ng ml<sup>-1</sup>; R&D Systems) and SCF (50 ng ml<sup>-1</sup>;BioLegend) to form HE for 72 hours. Media was changed on D6 and D7. For Runx1 induction 90 ng/mL and 300 ng/mL of doxycycline, dissolved in water, was added to the culture media from day 6-8.

### Hematopoietic progenitor colony assays.

EBs/EHT monolayers were dissociated at D5, D6 or D8 and 5x10<sup>4</sup>, 2x10<sup>4</sup> or 1x10<sup>5</sup>/2.5 x10<sup>4</sup> cells, respectively, were plated in Methylcellulose-Based Medium (MethoCult GF M3434; Stem Cell Technologies). Primitive erythroid colonies were counted at day 5 and definitive erythroid, granulocyte/macrophage and mixed colonies counted at 7-8 days post-plating. For all statistical analyses unpaired two-tailed Student's t-tests were performed in GraphPad Prism 8 (version 8.1.0).

## Flow cytometry, cell sorting and MACS.

EBs were dissociated using Trypsin-LE. For EHT cultures floating and adherent cells were pooled, washed 3x with FACS buffer (PBS + 2% FCS), stained with antibodies for 30 min (4°C), washed and resuspended in FACS buffer containing DAPI (1:5000, BD Pharmigen) and analysed on either a BD Fortessa X20 or a Cytek DxP8. Cell sorting for RNA-Seq and ATAC-Seq was completed on a MoFlo Astrios. For MACS, cells were stained at a concentration of 10<sup>7</sup> cells/150 uL FACS buffer containing 3.75 uL of anti-Flk-1(APC) antibody for 30 min (4°C), washed with PBE (PBS + 2mM EDTA + 0.5% BSA) and incubated in 80 uL of PBE + 20 uL of anti-APC microbeads (Miltenyi, Cat# 130-090-855) for 30 min (4°C), washed with PBE then passed over a LS magnetic column twice. For intracellular flow cytometry day 3-5 EoV5/V5 EBs were dissociated and stained for Flk-1 and PdgfRa prior to fixation. Cells were subsequently permeabilized and V5 staining was performed using the FoxP3 Staining Buffer Set (Invitrogen, Cat# 00-5523). Antibodies used are listed in Supplementary Table 3. The flow cytometry data was collected using BDFacsDiva (version 8), FlowJoCE (version 7.5) or Summit

80 (version 6.3.1) software. For all statistical analyses unpaired two-tailed Student's t-tests were 81 performed in GraphPad Prism 8 (version 8.1.0). 82 RNA isolation and quantitative RT-PCR. 83 84 85 Total RNA was isolated using the RNeasy Mini Kit (QIAGEN, Cat#74104) using on-column DNase 86 treatment. Complementary DNA was generated using the SuperScriptIII kit (Invitrogen) with oligo-dT primers. RT-qPCR was performed using the Quantitect SYBRGreen PCR kit and a Rotor-gene Q 87 (Qiagen) and analysed using the delta-delta Ct method, as described previously<sup>35</sup>. Primer sequences 88 89 are provided in Supplementary Table 2. 90 91 RNA-Seq. 92 RNA isolated from Flk-1<sup>hi</sup>/PdgfRa<sup>-</sup> single cell suspensions (1.5x10<sup>5</sup> cells) from three independent 93 94 hematopoietic differentiations of WT (CCE) and Eomes-null (clone 6A6, CCE) cells using the RNeasy 95 Micro Kit (QIAGEN, Cat#74004) was normalized to 800ng per sample, depleted of cytoplasmic and 96 mitochondrial ribosomal RNA sequences (Ribo-Zero Gold rRNA Removal Kit (H/M/R), Cat: 97 #MRZG12324) and library preparation performed using the Illumina TruSeg Stranded Total RNA 98 Library Prep (H/M/R) (Cat: #20020597), followed by sequencing (75-cycle paired end) on the Illumina 99 HiSeq4000 platform. 100 101 RNA-Seg analysis. 102 103 Paired-end reads were aligned against the mm10 genome using the STAR RNA-seq aligner with default parameters outputting bam files using --outSAMtype BAM SortedByCoordinate<sup>64</sup>. BAM file 104 primary alignments with a mapping quality of > 254 were treated as RNA-Seq data and imported into 105 106 Segmonk 1.45.4. 107 (https://www.bioinformatics.babraham.ac.uk/projects/download.html#seqmonk). The RNA-Seq quantitation pipeline (p<0.05 and multiple testing correction applied) in SeqMonk utilizing DESeq265 108 109 was performed to identify significantly differentially expressed genes (p<0.05, fold change > 1.5 and 110 FPKM >1). 111 112 scRNA-Seq. 113 10,000 Flk-1<sup>hI</sup>/PdgfRa<sup>-</sup> cells from D4/5 WT and Eomes-null EBs were sorted (BD FACSAria III) into 20 114 115 µL PBS/0.05% BSA (non-acetylated) and the volume topped up to 38 µL for loading onto the 10X 116 Chromium Controller. Processing of samples was performed using the Chromium Single Cell 3' library 117 & Gel Bead Kit v3 (10x Genomics). Barcoded cell cDNAs were pooled and converted to sequence 118 ready libraries. Multiplexed libraries were then sequenced on Illumina Nextseg using a high output 119 150bp Nextseq V2.5 kit.

#### scRNA-Seg analysis.

Sequencing data was demultiplexed in the binary base call (BCL) format, FASTQ files were aligned to the mm10 genome using 10X Genomics Cell Ranger software (version 2.0.0) and unique molecular identifier (UMI) counts determined. The Seurat v3 software package<sup>54, 66</sup> was used in R Studio to perform scRNA-Seq analysis. Pre-processing was performed and cells with > 2000 RNA features and < 8 % mitochondrial RNA were used for downstream analysis. Each sample was randomly down sampled to include 3805 cells and WT and Eomes-null samples from days 4 and 5 were merged together, normalized and 2000 variable features were identified using the VST method. Integration anchors for WT and Eomes-null Seurat objects were identified and integration was performed using the first 20 principle component (PC) dimensions. Clusters were identified and UMAPs generated using the first 16 PC and a resolution of 0.8. Cell type identities were assigned by comparing the conserved markers from each of the 13 clusters to cell type markers previously published for cell types identified in E6.5 to E8.5 mouse embryos<sup>15</sup>. Supplementary Table 1 lists the conserved markers.

In vitro cell type annotation was performed by mapping against the mouse gastrulation atlas<sup>15</sup>. Raw counts from both experiments were merged and normalised using the scater (1.14.6) package<sup>67</sup>. Then, highly variable genes were extracted from the joint data using scran's (1.14.6) decomposeVar function<sup>68</sup>. Genes with an FDR lower than 0.05 were considered as highly variable and used to compute the top fifty principal components along the joint dataset. Batch correction was performed on the gastrulation atlas principal components using the fastMNN's algorithm following the exact procedure from the original publication<sup>15</sup>. Integrated datasets were also corrected using fastMNN. In vitro cells were annotated by looking at the top 35 nearest neighbours from the atlas and selecting the most frequent cell type. A mapping score was assigned to reflect the mapped cell type frequency, where a higher score indicates a more consistent annotation. In vitro cells were additionally mapped back onto the force directed graph of hematoendothelial cells (hematoendothelial differentiation trajectory) from the original publication<sup>15</sup> by identifying the single nearest neighbour.

#### ATAC-seq.

Tagmentation and indexing of single cell suspensions (6x10<sup>4</sup> cells) from three independent differentiations of WT (CCE) and Eomes-null (clone 6A6, CCE) day 4 Flk-1<sup>ni</sup>/PdgfRa<sup>-</sup> cells was performed as previously described<sup>38</sup>. To control for sequence bias of the Tn5 transposase, 100ng genomic DNA of WT (CCE) ESCs was also tagmented and indexed. Libraries were purified with two rounds of Agencourt AMPure XP bead cleanup (Agencourt, 1.5× bead:sample ratio). Library size and concentration were determined using the 2100 Bioanalyzer High Sensitivity DNA Kit (Agilent). Samples were sequenced using a 75-cycle paired end Nextera kit with custom Nextera index primers taken from Table S1 in Buenrostro et al. 2013<sup>38</sup> on the Illumina HiSeq4000 platform.

160 161 ATAC-seg analysis. 162 Paired-end reads were aligned to the mouse genome assembly mm10 using Bowtie269 with the verv-163 sensitive option, sorted and mitochondrial reads discarded using Samtools<sup>70</sup> and duplicates removed 164 165 using Picard (https://broadinstitute.github.io/picard/). Bigwig files were generated using deepTools271. Biological replicates were randomly downsampled to contain the same number of reads for each 166 individual sample and peaks in each sample called using MACS2<sup>72</sup> using the Tn5 control as a control. 167 MACS2 called peaks with a p-value < 10<sup>-3</sup> were used in downstream analyses. Significant changes in 168 169 ATAC-Seq datasets were identified using the DiffBind package (version 2.2.12) (http://bioconductor.org/packages/release/bioc/html/DiffBind.html) using bam files and an integrative 170 bed file of all identified peaks in each sample with the following filters: FDR < 0.05, fold change > 1.5. 171 GREAT 4.0.4 analysis<sup>73</sup> was performed using default basal plus extension parameters with whole 172 173 genome as a background to identify peak-gene associations. Enrichment of TF motifs in differentially 174 accessible ATAC-seq peaks was performed using the Analysis of Motif Enrichment (AME 4.12.0) feature in the MEME suite<sup>74</sup> with a background control of all ATAC-seq peaks. 175 176 Bigwig files were downloaded from GSE47085 and genomic coordinates were converted from mm9 to 177 mm10 using Crossmap 0.2.9<sup>75</sup>. An SCL peak file was downloaded from Supplementary Table S1A 178 from Van Handel et al. 2015<sup>39</sup> and genomic coordinates were converted from mm9 to mm10 using 179 UCSC LiftOver. Bedtools was used to intersect peak files and identify overlapping genomic regions<sup>76</sup>. 180 GREAT 4.0.4 analysis<sup>73</sup> was performed using default basal plus extension parameters with whole 181 182 genome as a background to identify peak-gene association. Identified genes were annotated in 183 Segmonk 1.45.4 for comparison of ATAC-Seg and gene expression changes from RNA-Seg. Changes in ATAC-Seq signal were assessed using heatmaps generated in deepTools2<sup>71</sup>, and 184 genomic snapshots visualized in IGV<sup>77</sup> generated from bigwig files creates using deepTools2<sup>71</sup>. 185 186 187 CRISPR modification of ESCs. 188 Custom synthetic crRNA (using the CC-Top CRISPR design tool<sup>78</sup>) and ssODNs (Integrated DNA 189 190 Technologies, USA) were resuspended in IDT duplex buffer. Sequences are provided in 191 Supplementary Table 5. Cas9 ribonucleoprotein (RNP) complexes were assembled immediately prior 192 to electroporation following the manufacturer's protocol (Alt-R CRISPR-Cas9 System:Delivery of 193 ribonucleoprotein complexes into Jurkat T cells using the Neon® Transfection System). ESC were 194 electroporated using the Neon transfection system (Voltage = 1600V, pulse width = 10 ms, number of pulses = 3) with the appropriate ssODN (50 pmol) and RNP. If two crRNAs were used then RNPs 195 196 were produced separately and mixed 1:1 prior to electroporation. 197

For generation of Eomes-null Runx1-Venus and Eomes-null SCL-Cherry reporter and Eomes-null iRunx1 ESCs two custom crRNAs (Supplementary Table 6) were designed to recapitulate the

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previously described Eomes loss of function allele<sup>23</sup>. ssODNs were designed that contained a 5' homology arm upstream of the intron 1 DNA DS break site, followed by insertion of a new EcoRV, Sph1 or Spe1 restriction site and a 3' homology arm located downstream of the intron 5 DNA break site (Supplementary Table 6). 10 uL of 2x10<sup>4</sup> ESCs in Buffer R were electroporated with 1 uL of a 1:1 mix of the RNPs and 2 uL of the ssODN. Low density plating was performed after 72 hrs, and after 7-10 days clones were picked and screened using a three primer PCR strategy that simultaneously amplified the WT allele and the null allele (Supplementary Table 2). Genotypes of clones were verified using Southern blotting or PCR followed by restriction enzyme digests.

For generation of the Eomes V5/V5 ESC lines a custom crRNA was designed to target the UAG translational stop site in exon 6 of Eomes and a ssODN was designed to insert a triple glycine V5 epitope tag (3XGly-V5) directly upstream of the UAG translational stop site of Eomes (Supplementary Table 6). Homozygous insertion of the 3XGly-V5 tag at the C-terminus of the Eomes locus was assessed by PCR across the C-terminus of Eomes with primers listed in Supplementary Table 2. In frame insertion with the correct 3XGly-V5 sequence was confirmed via Sanger sequencing of a 971 bp PCR product (Supplementary Table 2) that spanned the C-terminus of Eomes. Western blotting and immunofluorescence staining were performed on day 4 EBs to confirm successful V5 tagging of the endogenous Eomes protein.

#### Generation of the Runx1-Venus ESC reporter line.

For generation of the Runx1-Venus mouse ESC reporter line a 3xFlag-P2A-Venus was inserted in the last exon of Runx1 (exon 6), before the stop codon. Briefly, a 4kb 5' homology arm and a 4.2 3' homology arm were amplified from E14 gDNA by PCR and cloned into pUC19 (Invitrogen). A GeneARt (Invitrogen) synthetic construct consisting of Runx1 ex6-3xFlag-P2A-Venus was cloned into the pUC19 vector containing the homology arms using Gibson assembly (pUC19-Runx1-Venus GA FP: ccaacatgcccccgCGCGCCTGGAGGAGGCCG, pUC19-Runx1-Venus\_GA\_RP: cggcaggcccagtccCTCGATGGCGATGGCGCTC). The resulting pUC19-Runx1\_Ex6-P2A-Venus-Long HAconstruct was used for transfection into undifferentiated E14 ESCs with a CRISPR/Cas9 vector expressing a gRNA (Supplementary Table 5) that cut immediately preceding the RUNX1 stop codon. The guide RNA (gRNA) was designed using the MIT CRISPR design tool (http://crispr.mit.edu/)<sup>79</sup>. The double stranded gRNA was constructed by annealing oligos (Integrated DNA Technologies; IDT) consisting of the gRNA sequence (forward) and reverse complement sequences (reverse) (Supplementary Table 5). The gRNA was cloned into the Bbsl site of pX458 (Addgene plasmid 48138); BbsI restriction sites were added to the oligos for this purpose. All constructs were verified by Sanger sequencing. E14 ESCs were transfected using TransIT LT1 (Mirus) and a pX458:pUC19 ratio of 1:2. Integration was checked by long-range PCR with a forward

primer outside of the 5' HA and a reverse primer 3' of the Runx1 endogenous stop codon, generating

a 5.8kb amplicon for the correctly targeted allele and a 4.4kb amplicon for the wild type allele

(Supplementary Table 2). A clone with the Venus reporter integrated in both alleles (RV11) was used for all experiments.

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#### ChIP-Seq.

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Day 4 Eomes<sup>V5/V5</sup> (CCE) and WT (CCE) D4 EBs were dissociated and ~3-4x10<sup>7</sup> cells were cross-linked for 10 min at RT with 1% (v/v) formaldehyde, and quenched with 125mM glycine. Nuclei were recovered and lysed to obtain chromatin, which was then sonicated to 200–500 bp, pre-cleared with protein G Dynabeads (Thermofisher Scientific) and ~175 ug of chromatin was immunoprecipitated with 10µg of anti-V5 (Abcam cat# ab9116, lot# GR: 322448-4) bound to protein G Dynabeads overnight on a rotator at 4°C. Dynabeads were washed and immune complexes were eluted in IP elution buffer (1% SDS, 0.1M NaHCO3), reverse crosslinked overnight at 65°C, RNaseA treated for 1.5hrs at 42°C, proteinase K treated for 2hrs at 45°C and DNA was recovered using a Zymo column kit. DNA was multiplexed and paired end sequencing was performed on a single lane of an Illumina HiSeq4000 platform.

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#### ChIP-Seq analysis.

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Paired-end reads were aligned to the mouse genome assembly mm10 using Bowtie2<sup>69</sup> with default 257 parameters. PCR duplicates were removed using Samtools 1.970. Peaks were called against input 258 DNA using MACS 2.1.2<sup>72</sup> and were considered significant if they had a fold enrichment > 2 and FDR 259 < 0.05. Bedtools 2.27.1<sup>76</sup> was used to intersect the peak files from both Eomes V5/V5 clones and 260 261 subtract peaks called in the WT control and genomic intervals located in mm10 blacklist regions 262 (https://www.encodeproject.org/files/ENCFF547MET/@@download/ENCFF547MET.bed.gz), generating a peak file containing 338 genomic intervals used for downstream analyses 263 (Supplementary Table 6). The HOMER (v4.10.4) software package<sup>80</sup> was used to perform motif 264 enrichment analysis. GREAT 4.0.4 analysis<sup>73</sup> was performed using default basal plus extension 265 parameters with the whole genome used as a control to identify peak-gene associations. Heatmaps 266 and bigwig files were generated using Deeptools 3.1.3<sup>71</sup>. Bigwig files and peak files were downloaded 267 from GSE69101<sup>49</sup>. Data from GSE110164<sup>50</sup> were downloaded and used to generate peak files and 268 bigwig files as previously described<sup>81</sup>. Bigwig files and peak files were downloaded from 269 GSE128466<sup>51</sup>. 270

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## Statistics and Reproducibility.

Statistical analyses for flow cytometry and colony forming assays were performed using GraphPad Prism (8.1.0).

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## 276 Data availability statement.

- 277 The RNA-Seq, scRNA-Seq, ChIP-seq and ATAC-seq data have been deposited in the Gene
- 278 Expression Omnibus (GEO) GSE140005. Previously published sequencing data that were re-

analysed here are available under accession code GSE110164, GSE128466 and GSE47085. All other data supporting the findings of this study and biological materials presented in this study are available on reasonable request. Source data are available for this paper. References Arnold, S.J. & Robertson, E.J. Making a commitment: cell lineage allocation and axis patterning in the 1. early mouse embryo. Nature reviews Molecular cell biology 10, 91-103 (2009). 2. Kinder, S.J. et al. The orderly allocation of mesodermal cells to the extraembryonic structures and the anteroposterior axis during gastrulation of the mouse embryo. Development 126, 4691-4701 (1999). 3. Ferkowicz, M.J. & Yoder, M.C. Blood island formation: longstanding observations and modern interpretations. Exp Hematol 33, 1041-1047 (2005).

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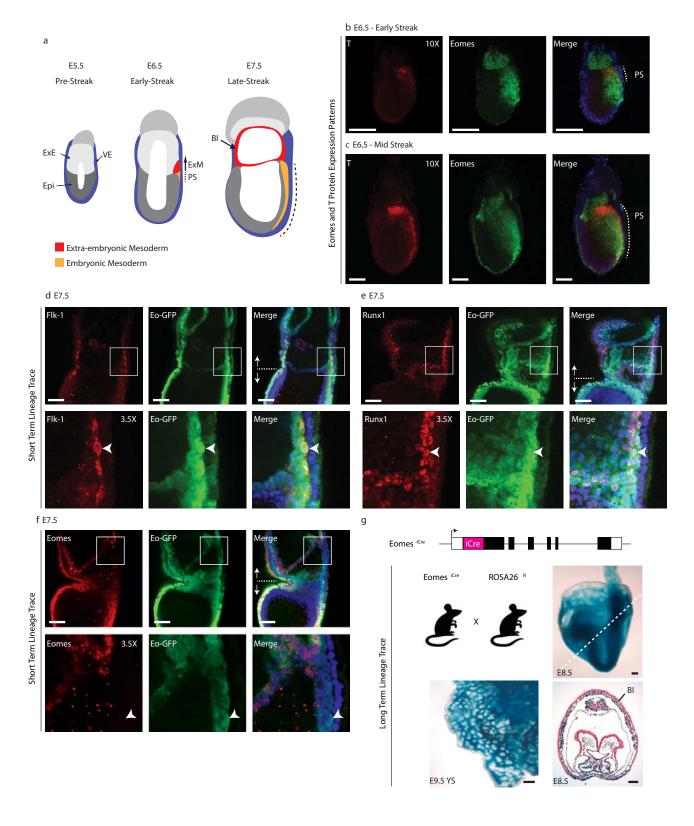
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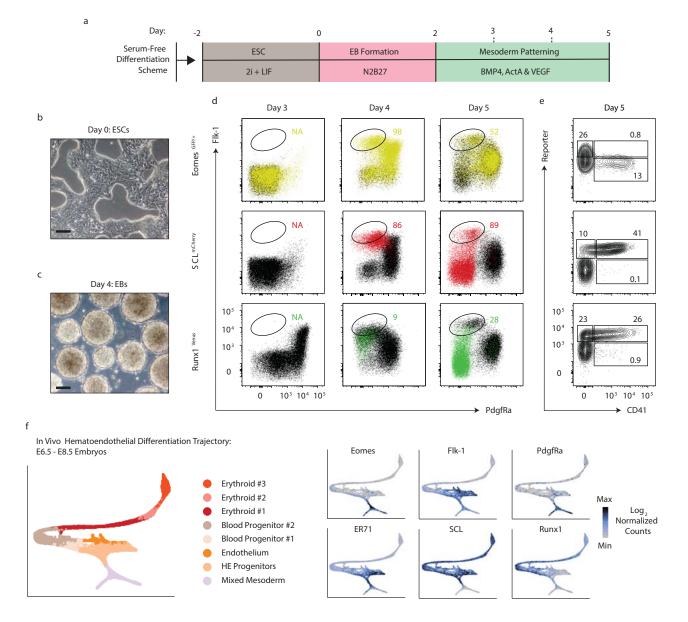
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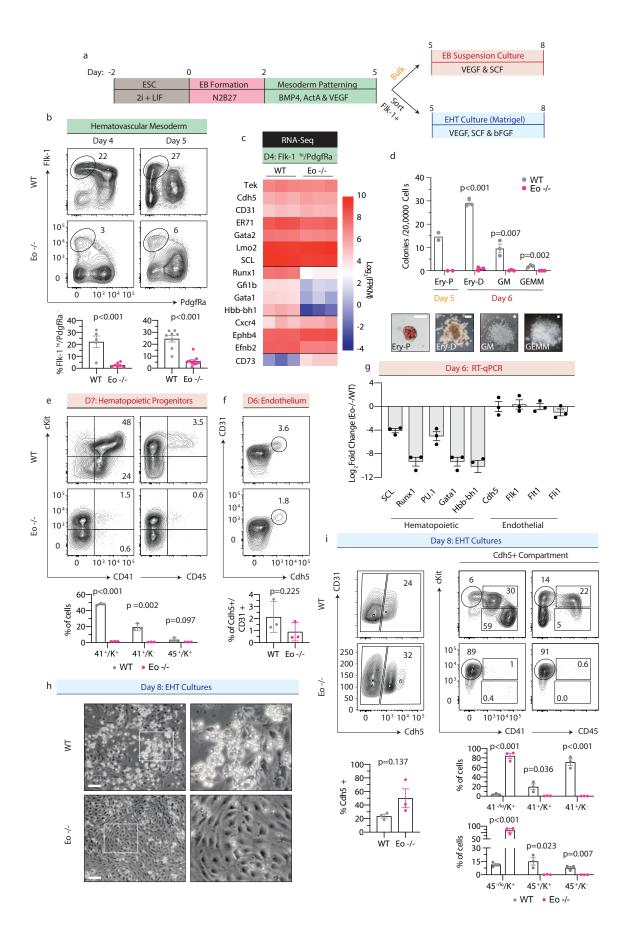
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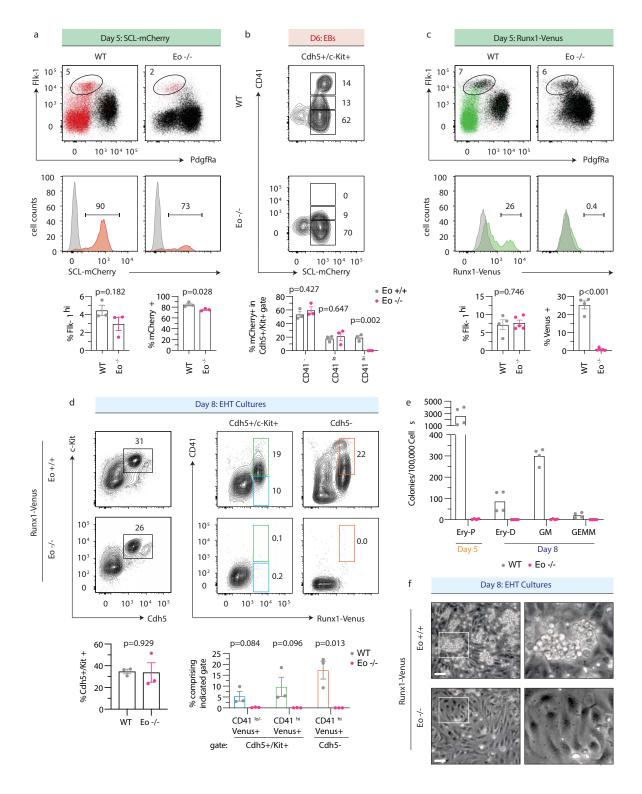
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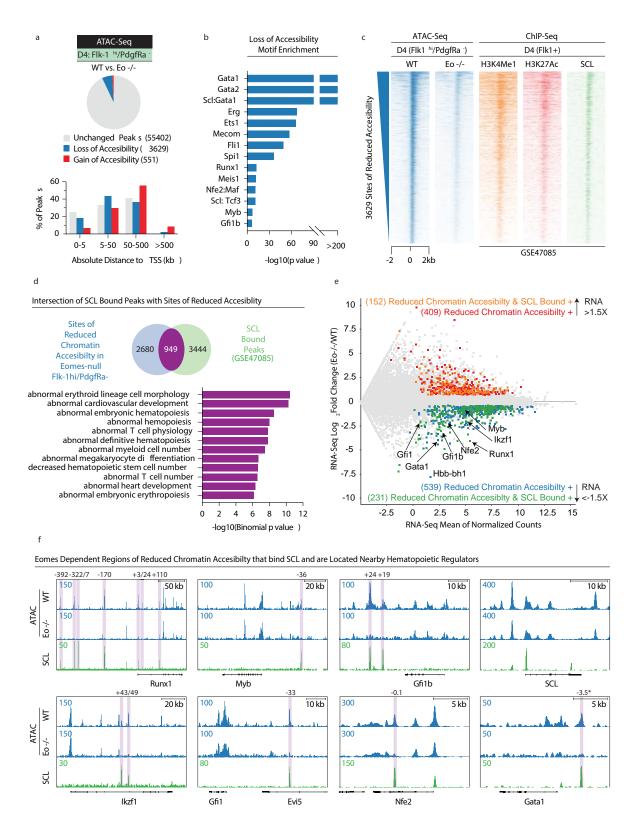
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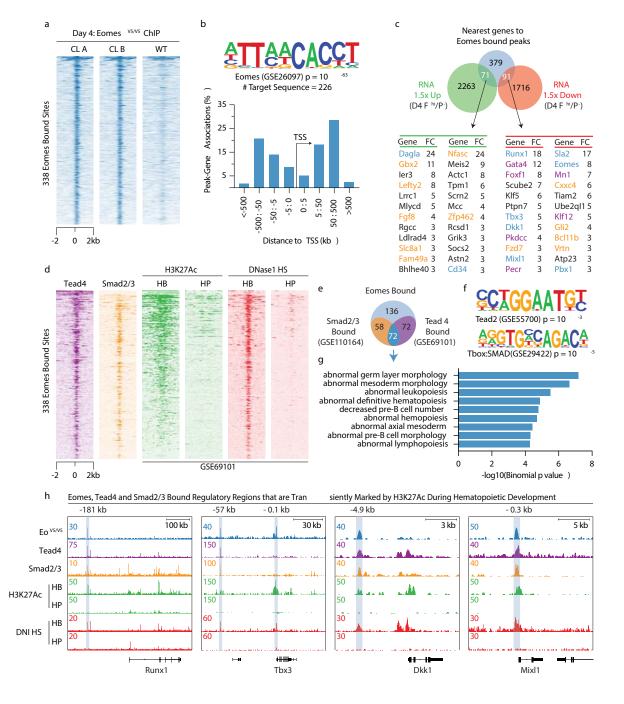


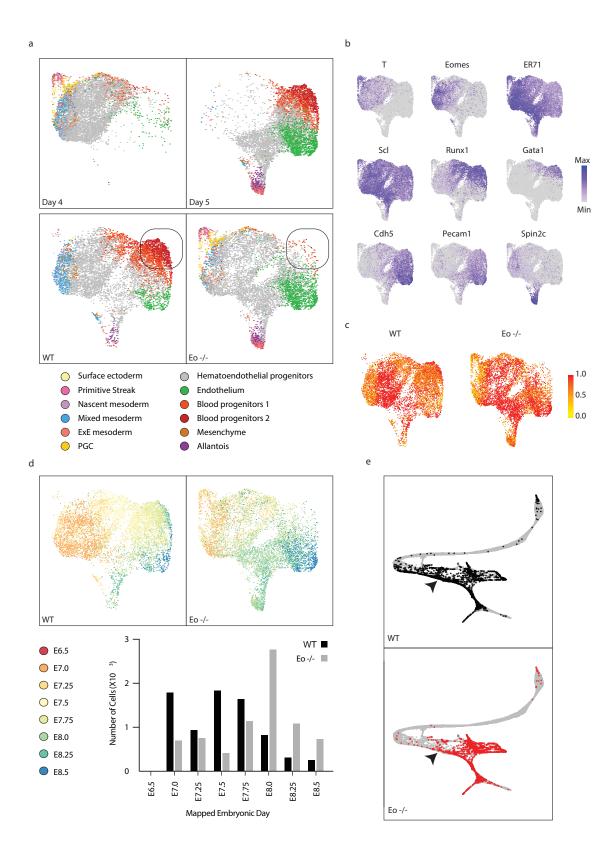


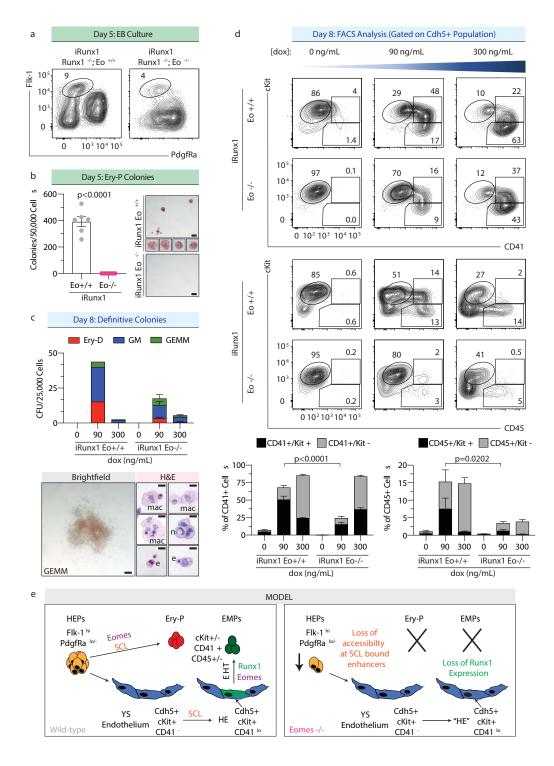


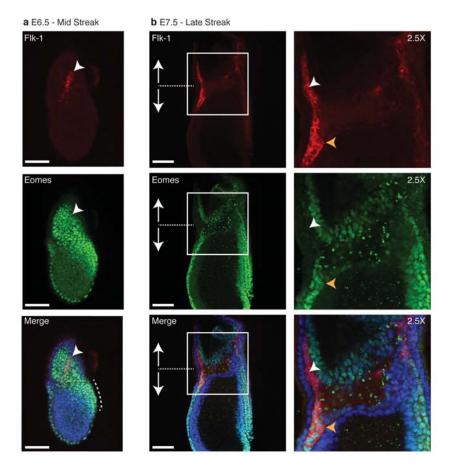


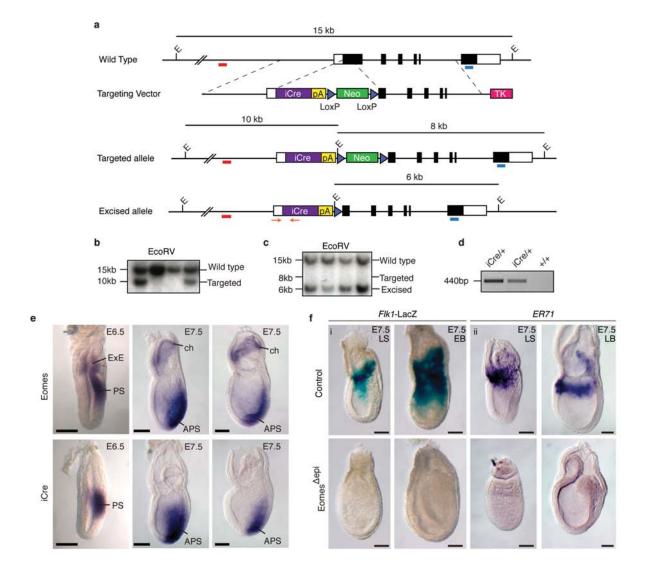


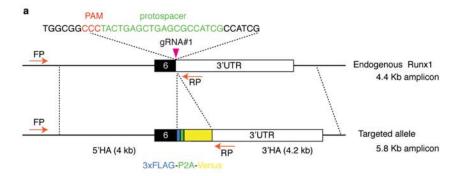


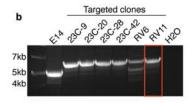




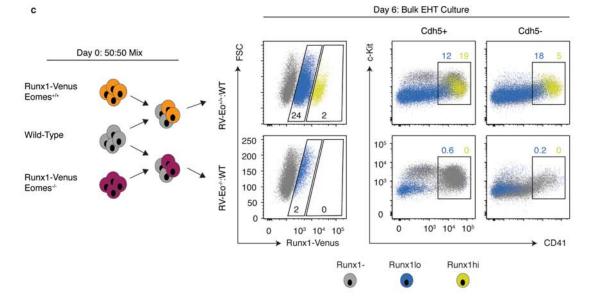


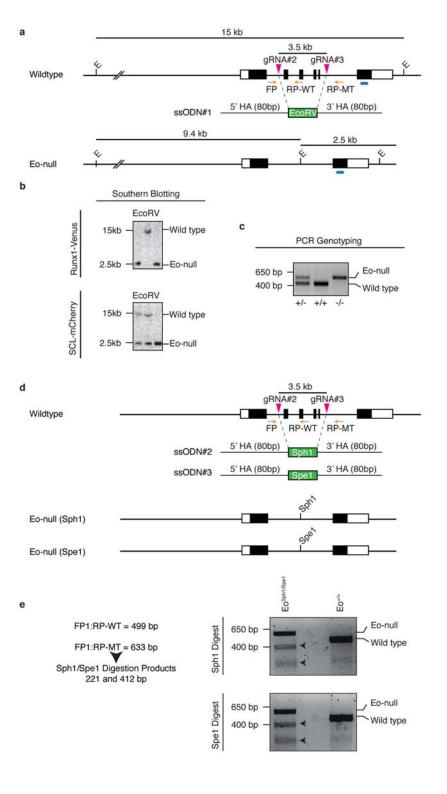


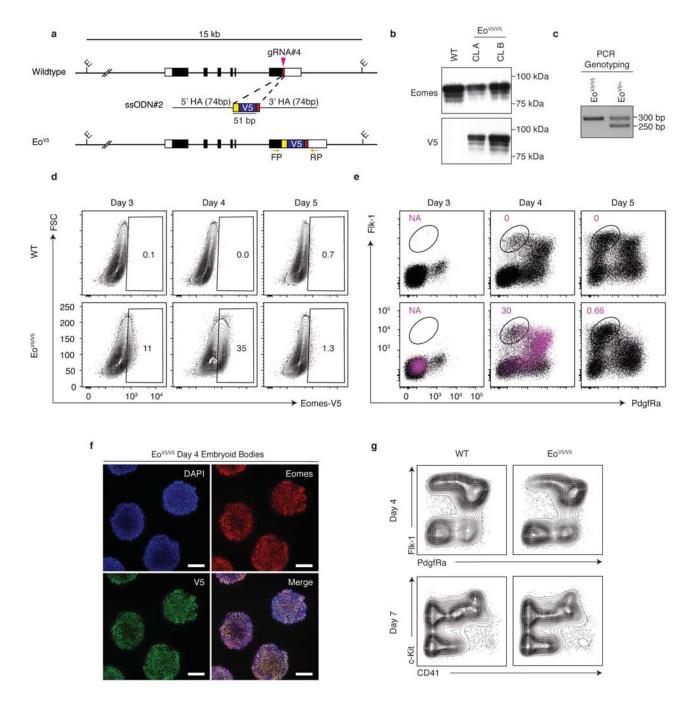


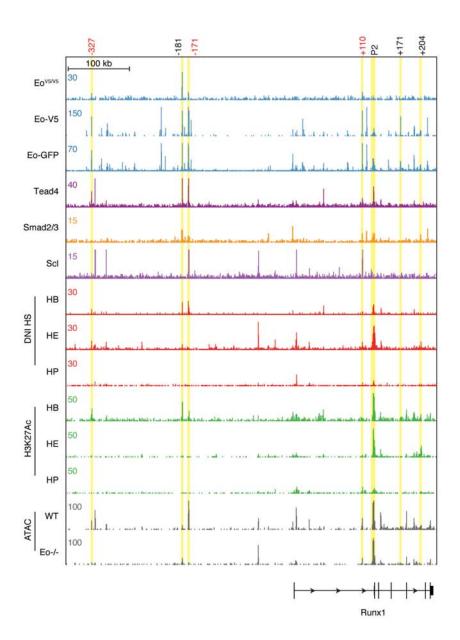


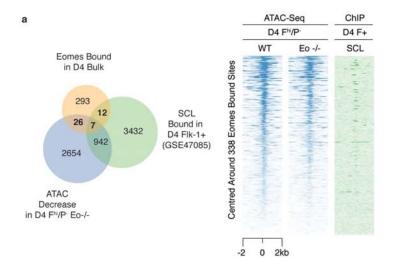
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Clones expaned: 143
No. targeted: 39 / 143 (27%)
No. heterozygous: 24 / 143 (17%)
No. homozygous: 10 / 143 (7%)

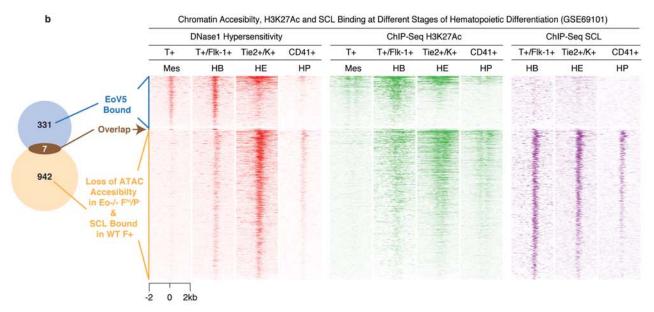


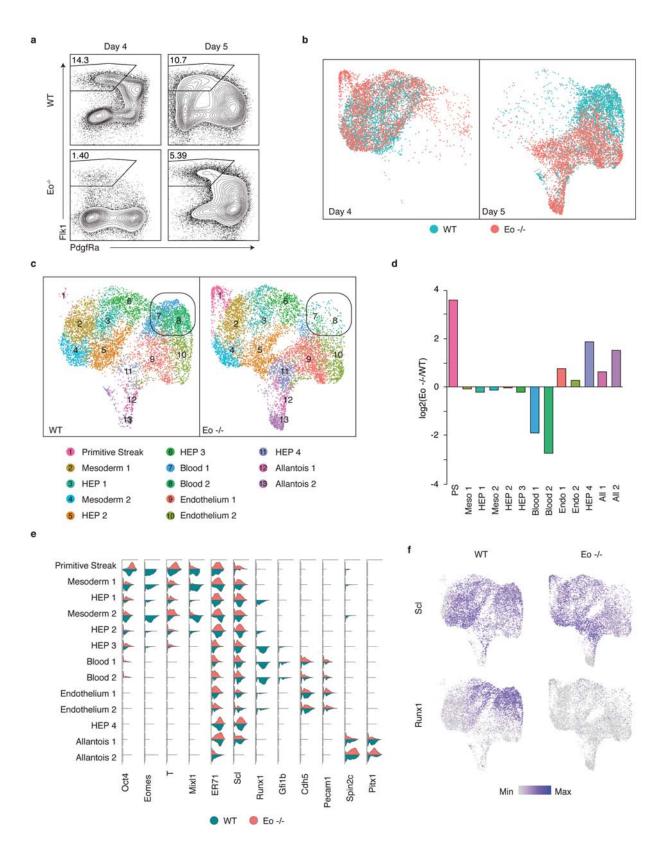












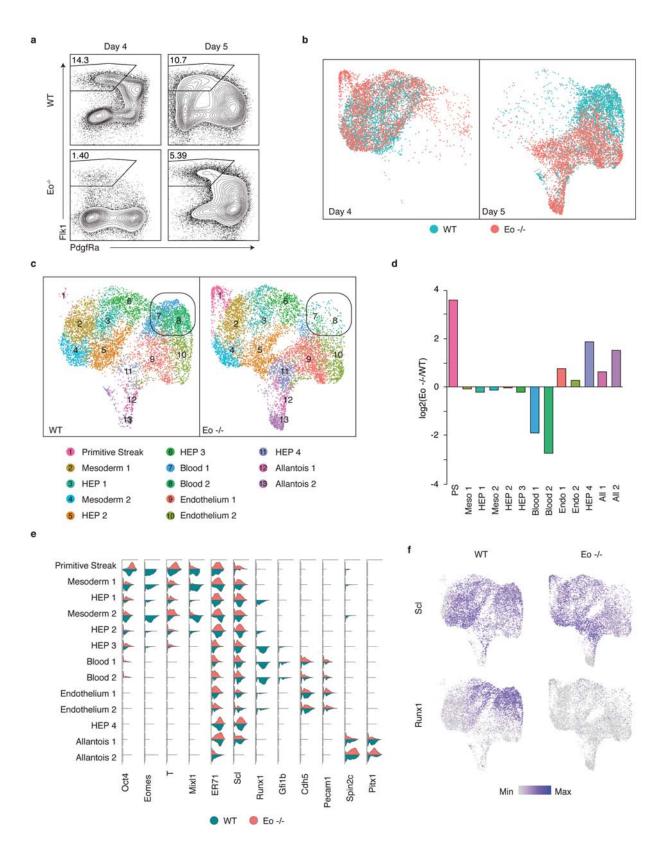
					Conserv	ved Marker L	ist (Positiv	re Only)					
Cell Identity	Primitive Streak	Mesoderm 1	HE 1	Mesoderm 2	HE2	HE3	Blood 1	Blood 2	Endo 1	Endo 2	HE4		Allantois 2
Figure Cluster	1 DouEff	2 Mixta	3	4 Mixta	5 Lmo2	6 Fat2	7 Uba2a	8 Coto 4	9 Ctlana	10 Ctlo20	11 Corn?	12 Cdlm1a	13 Hond1
	Pou5f1 Fst	Mixl1 Krt8	Lmo2 Ifitm3	Mixl1 Tdgf1	Lmo2 Ube2c	Fgf3 Hand1	Ube2c Gclm	Gsta4 Rnd2	Ctla2a Vim	Ctla2a Vim	Csrp2 Etv2	Cdkn1c Csrp2	Hand1 Spin2c
	Tdgf1	Tdgf1	Akap12	Cenpf	Nrp2	Zfpm1	Prc1	Gclm	Ecscr	Tmsb4x	lgfbp4	Twist1	Phlda2
	T	Hand1	Upp1	Tgfb2	Exoc3l	Hist1h1b	Cenpf	Fth1	Tmsb4x	Ramp2	Map1b	Cdx2	Pmp22
	Emb Fgf8	Amot Gpc3		Gpc3 Amot	Cenpf Prc1	Cbfa2t3	Rnd2 Top2a	Prkar2b Hist1h1b	Ramp2 Gja4	Apoe Cdh5	Mmp9 Dok4	Dlk1 Pitx1	Cdkn1c Csrp2
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	Krt8 Epcam	Mesp1 Wls		Ifitm1 Arl6ip1	Cenpe Etv2		Prkar2b Malat1	F2r Srm	Col4a1 Egfl7	Gja4 Ctsl	Serpinh1 Hsp90b1	Tgfb2 Sox4	Slc38a4 Tgfb2
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	Ldhb	T		Top2a	Top2a		Skap1	Fgf3	Crip2	ltm2a	lfitm1	Slc38a4	Foxf1
	MixI1	Ckb Prtq		Hand1 Ccnb1	Plk1		Tacc1 Tubb4b	Orc6	Ctsl	Col4a1	Gpc3 Cald1	Swap70	Msx1
	Cyb5a Krt18	Ldhb		Tceal9	Tpx2 Ccnb1		Ccnb1	Apoe	Itm2a Igfbp4	Gsta4 Crip2	Tal1	Phlda2 Hspa5	Ccnd2 Bambi
	Ckb	Actg1		Meg3	Bmp2		Hmmr		Hist1h1b	lgf1	Ssr2	lgf2r	Sfrp1
	L1td1	Tpm1		Gata6	Akap12		Aurka		Tmsb10	Col18a1	Slc16a3	Gpx3	Msx2
	Aldh2 Chchd10			Actg1 Gja1	Smc4 Cks2		Plk1 Cks2		Col18a1 Col4a2	Tmsb10 Ets1	Rbms1 Sox18	Grb10 Hsp90b1	Crabp1 Morc4
	Cdkn1a			Ypel3	Kif20b		H2afx		Rasip1	Selenop	Pdia3	Etv2	Wnt5a
	S100a11			Cenpe	Kif11		Cdk1		Exoc3l4	Col4a2	Pdia6	Plac1	Peg10
	Sp5 TagIn			Plk1 Prtg	Mki67 Egfl7		Aurkb Ddah2		Esam Pecam1	Txnip F2r	Lmo2 Manf	Plpp3 Peg10	Plpp3 Sall4
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	Wfdc2						Pimreg		Msn	Prcp		Slc2a1	Pja1
	Tspan13 Dstn								N4bp3 Plvap	Gmfg Anxa5		Magi3 Mmp2	Arhgap29 Dok4
	Dnmt3b								Arhgap29	Swap70		Rbpms2	Bex3
	Rbp1								BC028528			Hoxd9	Tbx2
	Actg1								Zfp711			Oat	Krt19
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	Car2								Arpc3			Nxn	Unc5c
	Tcea3								Cd34			Wnt5a	
	Gpc3 Gldc											Isl1 Akap12	
	Tapbp											Rasd1	
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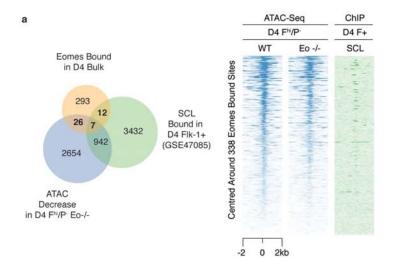
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Product Length #1 (WT)   Product Length #2 (Eo-null/V5/Runx1-Venus)												535	633	971	301	4400
Product Length #1 (WT)	145	154	68	102	162	86	0/	240	247	110	440	401	499		250	2800
Reverse Primer #2 (5' -> 3')												TCTACAGAGAGATTCCAGGAC	TCTACAGAGAGATTCCAGGAC			
Reverse Primer #1 (5' -> 3')	GATCTCGCTCCTGGAAGATG	CGCCGCACTACTTTGGTGTG	ACGGCAGAGTAGGGAACT	CAGCTCTGTGAAGTGGTTCT	GTGTCCAAGAACGTGTTGTTGC	GAGCAAAGGTCTCCTTGAGGT	AACTGCCCATACTTGACCGTG	GATTTCATCCCACTACCGAAAG	CAGGTTTGACTTGTCTGAGGTT	GAAGCAGTCATATCTGCCTTGG	TITCCTGTTGTTCAGCTTGC	CCCAATATCCACTCCTCACTTC	CCCAATATCCACTCCACTTC	TTTAACCCTCTGGGCTGCTG	AGGATACATCAAAGGTGGAAGG	TTCCCTCCGGGATTCTTCCT
Forward Primer (5' -> 3')	CAATGACCCCTTCATTGACC	ATAGCCTTAGCCAGCCGCTC	CAGCCTCTCTGCAGAACTTT	AGCGATGGAGAAAGCCATAG	CAACAGTATGGAGGGAATTCCT	GAAACCCCCGGATTAGAGCC	AGGACAGCAACTTCACCCTCA	CACCTGGCACTCTCCACCTTC	TGGCTCTACGACCTTAGACTG	ATGGACGGGACTATTAAGGAGG	AAGGAAAGGGGCACCTACAATC	TCTCCTCTAGTCACCTTCAC	GCTCTGCTTAGGGTGTTTAAGTG	CCTGTGACCAACAAGCTAGAC	GCAAGAGAAAGCGCCTGTC	CAAGAGGATATGGGCAGA
Gene	GAPDH	SCL	Runx1	PU.1	Gata1	Hbb-bh1	Cdh5	FIK-1	FIt-1	<u>FE</u>	iCre	Eomes-null (Set#1)	Eomes-null (Set#2)	Eomes-V5 Sanger Sequencing Product	Eomes-V5	Runx1-Venus

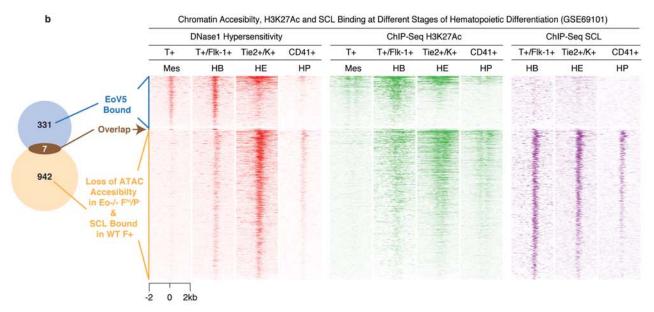
Reagent or Resource	Source	Identifier	Lot #	RRID	Dilution	Application
Rabbit polyclonal anti-mouse Eomes	Abcam	Cat #ab23345	lot: GR306193-1	RRID:AB_778267	1 in 100/500	
Rabbit monoclonal anti-mouse Runx1	Abcam	Cat# ab92336	Lot: GR107772-16	RRID:AB_2049267	1 in 100	
Rabbit monoclonal anti-mouse VEGFR2 (Flk1)	Cell Signalling Technology	Cat# 2479	Lot: 18	RRID:AB_2212507	1 in 500	
Chicken polyclonal anti-GFP	Abcam	Cat# ab13970	Lot: GR3190550-4	RRID:AB_300798	1 in 1000	
Rat monoclonal anti-mouse Flk-1	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat# 14-5821-82		RRID:AB_467623	1 in 200	
Goat polyclonal anti-mouse T	SantaCruz Biotechnology	Cat# sc-17743	Lot: A1614	RRID:AB_634980	1 in 100	
Mouse monoclonal anti-V5 Tag	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat# R960-25		RRID:AB_2556564	1 in 200	Immunofluorescence
Donkey anti-rabbit IgG AlexaFluor 488 (#670)	Life Technologies	Cat# A-21206	Lot: 1480470	RRID:AB_141708	1 in 200	illillullolluolescelice
Goat anti-Chicken AlexaFluor 488 (#722)	Life Technologies	Cat# A-11039	Lot: 1637891	RRID:AB_141708	1 in 200	
Donkey anti-Rabbit IgG AlexaFluor 594 (#714)	Life Technologies	Cat# A-21207	Lot: 1938375	RRID:AB_141637	1 in 200	
Donkey Anti-Mouse IgG AlexaFluor 488	Life Technologies	Cat# A-21202	Lot: 1975519	RRID:AB_141607	1 in 400	
Donkey anti-Rat AlexaFluor 594 (#680)	Life Technologies	Cat# A-21209		RRID:AB_2535795	1 in 400	
Donkey anti-goat IgG AlexaFluor 594 (#671)	Life Technologies	Cat# A-11058	Lot: 1445994	RRID:AB_142540	1 in 200	
DAPI	BIOTIUM	Cat# 40043	Lot: 1900122		1 in 5000	
Rat monoclonal anti-mouse Flk-1 APC	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat# 17-5821-81	Lot: 1998335	RRID:AB_657866	1 in 40	
Rat monoclonal anti-mouse PdgfRa PECy7	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat# 25-1401-82	Lot: 4334654	RRID:AB_2573400	1 in 160	
Rat monoclonal anti-mouse CD144 APC	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat# 17-1441-82	Lot: 4319919	RRID:AB_10598508	1 in 160	
Rat monoclonal anti-mouse CD144 PeCy7	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat# 25-1441-82	Lot: 4346553	RRID:AB_2573402	1 in 160	
Rat monoclonal anti-mouse CD117 BV605	BioLegend	Cat# 105847	Lot: B274670	RRID:AB_2783047	1 in 160	
Rat monoclonal anti-mouse CD117 APC	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat# 17-1172-82	Lot: 4277766	RRID:AB_469433	1 in 160	Flow Cytometry
Rat monoclonal anti-mouse CD41a PECy7	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat# 24-0411-82	Lot: 4293461	RRID:AB_1234970	1 in 200	
Rat monoclonal anti-mouse CD45 PECy7	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat# 25-0451-82	Lot: 4329704	RRID:AB_469625	1 in 160	
Rat monoclonal anti-mouse CD31 APC	BioLegend	Cat# 102510	Lot: 13233286	RRID:AB_312917	1 in 80	
Mouse monoclonal anti-V5 Tag, FITC	Invitrogen	Cat# R963-25		RRID:AB_2556567	1 in 400	
DAPI	BD Biosciences	Cat# 564907	Lot: 8012653		1 in 5000	
V5-tag antibody - ChIP Grade	Abcam	Cat# ab9116	Lot: GR: 322448-4	RRID:AB_307024		ChIP
Rabbit polyclonal anti-mouse Eomes	Abcam	Cat# ab23345	Lot: GR733208	RRID:AB_778267	1 in 2000	
Mouse monoclonal anti-V5 Tag	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat# R960-25	Lot: 1923773	RRID:AB_2556564	1 in 1000	Mastara Diet
Sheep anti-mouse HRP Conjugated (#160)	GE Healthcare	Cat # NA931V	Lot: 9621358	RRID: AB_772210	1 in 2000	Western Blot
Donkey anti-rabbit HRP Conjugated (#159)	GE Healthcare	Cat# NA934V	Lot: 9761196	RRID: AB_772206	1 in 2000	
Anti-APC Microbeads	Miltenyi Biotec	Cat# 130090855	Lot: 5190123600		1 in 5	MACS

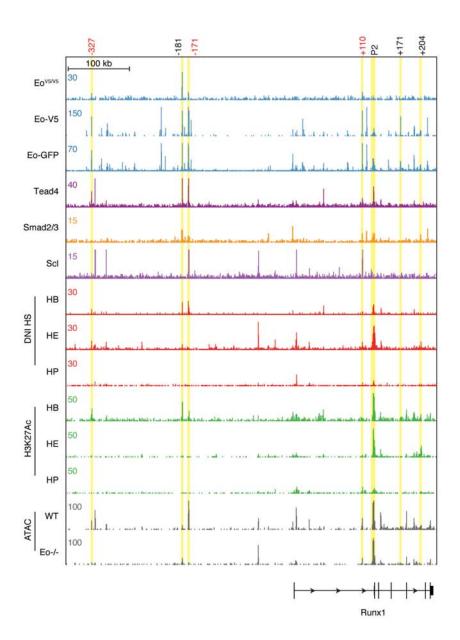
Name	Sequence	Application
iCre	TCAGTCCCCATCCTCGAGCAGCCTCACCATGGCCCCAGTCTCAG AGTCCAGGTTTCTGATGTAGTTCATCACAATGTTCACATTGGTCCA GCCACCAGCCTGCATGATTTCAGGGATGGACACACCAGCCCTGG CCATGTCCCTGGCAGCACCCACTCTGGCAGAGTGGCCAGACCA GGCCAGGTATCTCTGCCCAGAGTCATCCTTGGCACCATAGATCA GGCGGTGGGTGGCCTCAAAGATCCCTTCCAGGGCCCGGGTGGA CAGTTGGGAGGTAGCCAGAAGATCCCTTCCAGGGCCCGGGTGGA CAGTTGGGAACAGGTAGTTGTTTGGGGTCATCAGCCACACCAGC ACAGAGATCCATCTCCCACCAGCTTGGTAACCCCCAGGACAG GGCCTTCTCCACACCAGCTTGGTAACCCCCAGGACAG GGCCTTCTCCACACCAGCTTGGTAACCCCCAGGACAG GGCTTCTCCACACCAGGTTCTTGGCAATCTTGTCCT TCACTCTGATTCTGGCAATTTCGGCAATGCGCAGCAGGATTGTT AGGCAATGCCCAGGAAGGCCAGGTTCCTGATGTCCTGGCATCTG TCAGAGTTCTCCATCAGGGATCTGACTTTGTCCCACCATC TCACTCTGATTCTCCATCAGGGATCTGCTCTCCCCAGCATCCACAT CTCCTTTCTGATTCTCCTCTCC	WISH

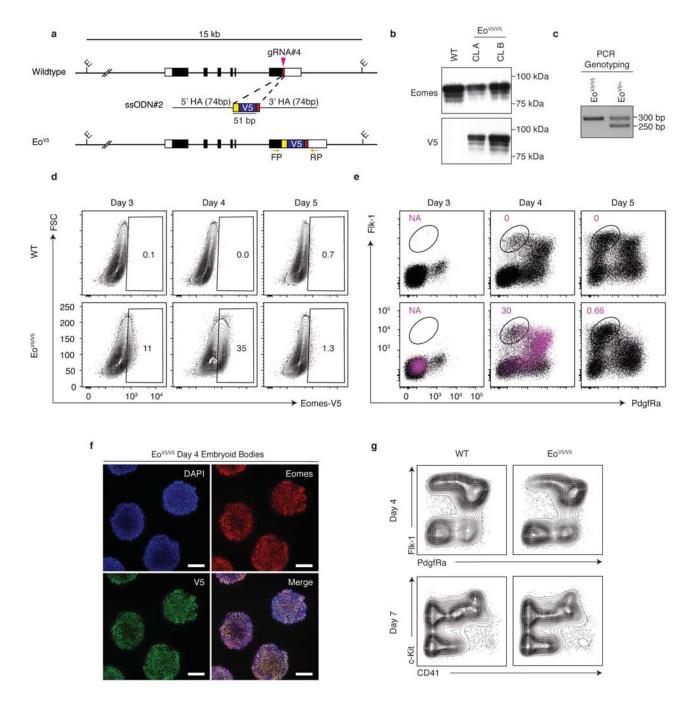
Figure ID	Company	Product #	Sequence	Application	
gRNA#1(Protospacer)	N/A	N/A	CGATGGCGCTCAGCTCAGTAGGG	Generation of the Runx1-	
gRNA#1Forward Oligo	N/A	N/A	caccgCGATGGCGCTCAGCTCAGTA	Venus ESC Reporter Line	
gRNA#1Reverse Oligo	N/A	N/A	aaacCCCTACTGAGCTGAGCGCCATCGc	venus ESC Reporter Line	
gRNA #2	Integrated DNA Technologies	Alt-R® CRISPR-Cas9 crRNA	GGTTTGCAGCAGGCGATTTGTGG		
gRNA #3	Integrated DNA Technologies	Alt-R® CRISPR-Cas9 crRNA	AGAGGCATCCCGGCACCCTGAGG		
ssODN#1	Integrated DNA Technologies	Ultramer® DNA Oligo	C'°CTCTTAACCTCCCCCCCATGCCCT AAATAAACTCTATTCTAT		
ssODN #2 (Sph1)	Integrated DNA Technologies	Ultramer® DNA Oligo	C'C'CTCTTAACCTCCCCCCATGCCCT AAATAAACTCTATTCCATCT TGTGGCTGGTCCCTCAGGGCATGCGCCT GCTGCAAACCCAGGAGCCAGCGGGTCAC GTAGATCTGCCCTCAAGGGTTATTCCCA AATTTCCATC'TC	Re-generation of Eomes-null	
ssODN #3 (Spe1)	Integrated DNA Technologies	Ultramer® DNA Oligo	C'OCTETTAACOTCCCCCCATGCCCT AAATAAACTCTATTCCTATACTATTCCATCT TGTGGCTGGTCCCTCAGGACTAGTGCCT GCTGCAAACCCAGGAGCCAGCGGGTCAC GTAGATCTGCCCTCAAGGGTTCATTCCCA AATTTCCATC'-T'C	ESC Line in iRunx1 ESC lines (Figure S3.d,e)	
gRNA #4	Integrated DNA Technologies	Alt-R® CRISPR-Cas9 crRNA	AAGGTTAAAATAATGCTCTAGGG		
ssODN #4	Integrated DNA Technologies	Ultramer® DNA Oligo	G'T'AACCTAGGCAAAGAACAACAACAACAACAACAACAACACACCACC		
	*F	Phosphorothioated DNA bases		l	

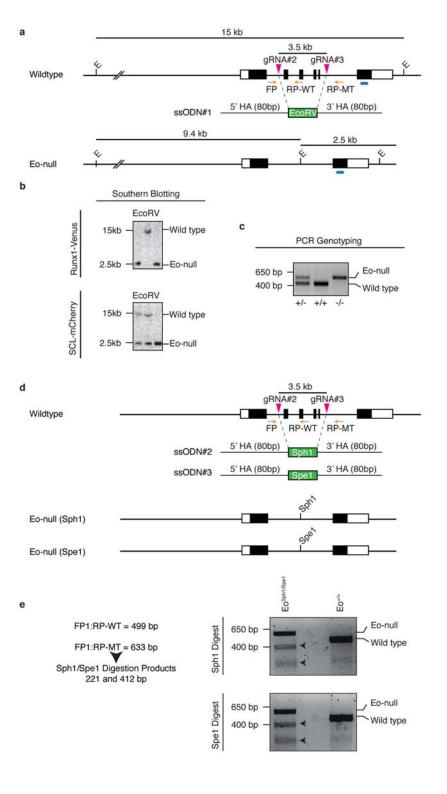


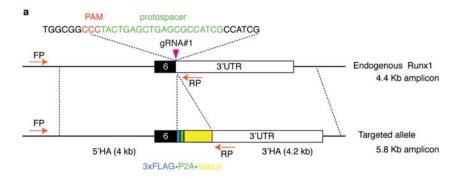


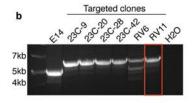












Total clones picked: 168
Clones expaned: 143
No. targeted: 39 / 143 (27%)
No. heterozygous: 24 / 143 (17%)
No. homozygous: 10 / 143 (7%)

