

Engineered lipid nanoparticles for in vivo and durable editing of haematopoietic stem cells within humanized mice

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Supplementary Figures

Supplementary Fig. 1 Engineering of CD34-overexpressing K562 clonal cells.

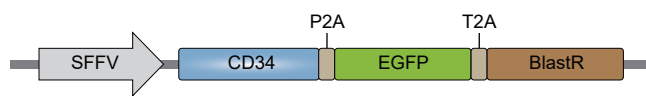
(a) Schematic illustration of the lentiviral construct for CD34 overexpression. SFFV, promoter; BlastR, Blasticidin-resistant gene.

(b) Flow cytometry plots exemplifying the percentage of CD34⁺ K562 cells. WT K562 cells were transduced with the CD34-overexpressing lentivirus at a multiplicity of infection (MOI) of 0.1. Subsequently, CD34⁺ K562 cells were enriched by Blasticidin-based resistance selection and fluorescence-activated cell sorting (FACS).

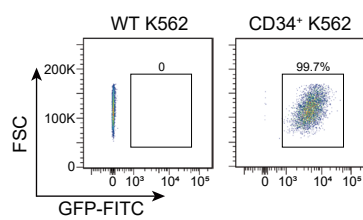
(c) Representative flow cytometry plots showing the percentage of CD34⁺ cells in WT K562 cells, CD34⁺ K562 cells and primary human CD34⁺ HSPCs.

(d-e) Quantification of the percentage of CD34⁺ cells **(d)** and mean fluorescence intensity (MFI) of CD34 expression levels **(e)**, corresponding to panel **c**. Data are represented as mean $\pm$ s.d. (n = 3 biologically independent samples). Statistical significance was analyzed using unpaired two-sided student's *t*-test, NS, not significant.

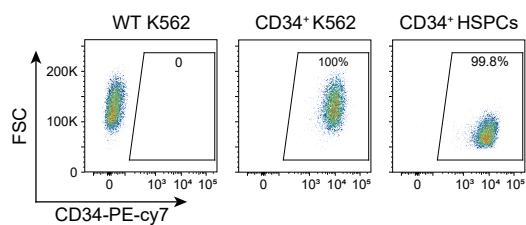
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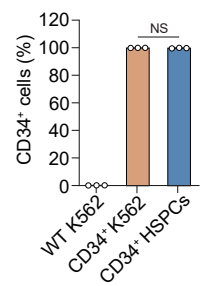
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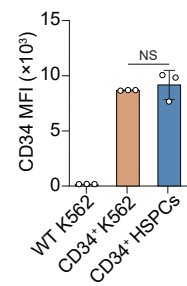
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d



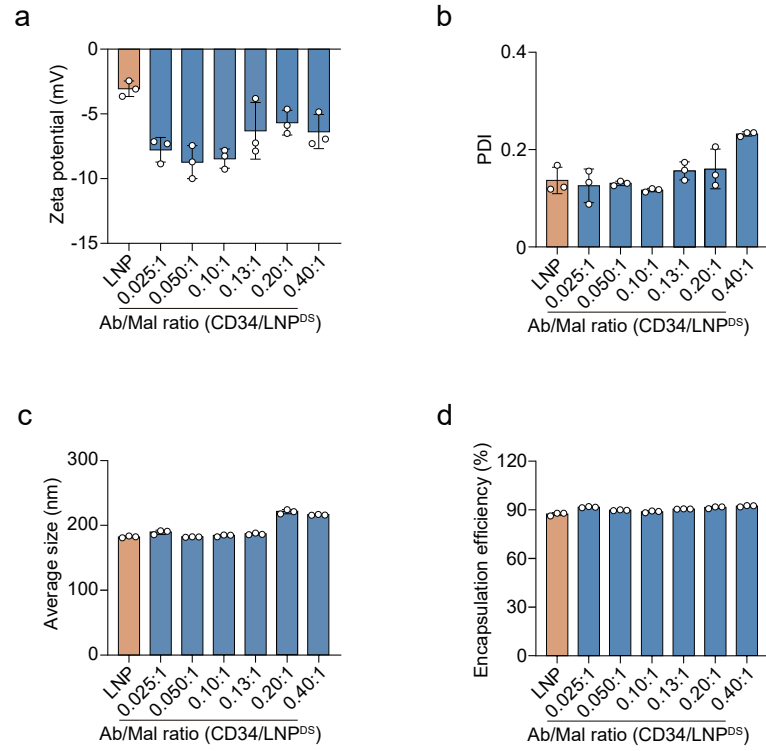
e



Supplementary Fig. 2 Comprehensive physicochemical characterization of CD34/LNP^{DS} engineered with diverse antibody-to-maleimide molar ratios.

(a-c) The zeta potential **(a)**, PDI **(b)** and average size **(c)** of LNP^{DS} and various CD34/LNP^{DS} formulations engineered with varying antibody-to-maleimide ratios (ranging from 0.025:1 to 0.40:1), as measured by dynamic light scattering.

(d) Encapsulation efficiency of mCherry mRNA within CD34/LNP^{DS} formulations across a spectrum of antibody-to-maleimide ratios. Ab, antibody; Mal, maleimide. Data are presented as mean $\pm$ s.d. (n = 3 biologically independent samples).

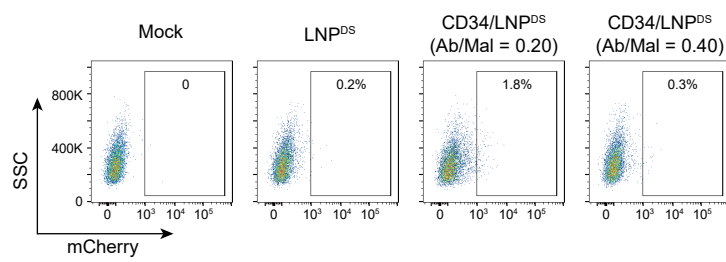


Supplementary Fig. 3 Evaluation of LNP^{DS} and CD34/LNP^{DS} transfection in WT K562 cells.

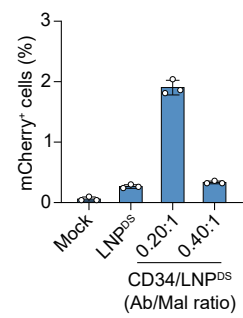
(a) Representative flow cytometry plots showing the transfection efficiency (% mCherry⁺ cells) of LNP^{DS}-mCherry and CD34/LNP^{DS}-mCherry prepared with varying antibody-to-mal ratios, in WT K562 cells (1×10^5 cells/mL). A concentration of 500 ng/mL LNPs was utilized.

(b) Quantitative analysis of the percentage of mCherry⁺ cells within WT K562 cells (related to panel **a**). Data are presented as mean $\pm$ s.d. (n = 3 biologically independent samples).

a



b

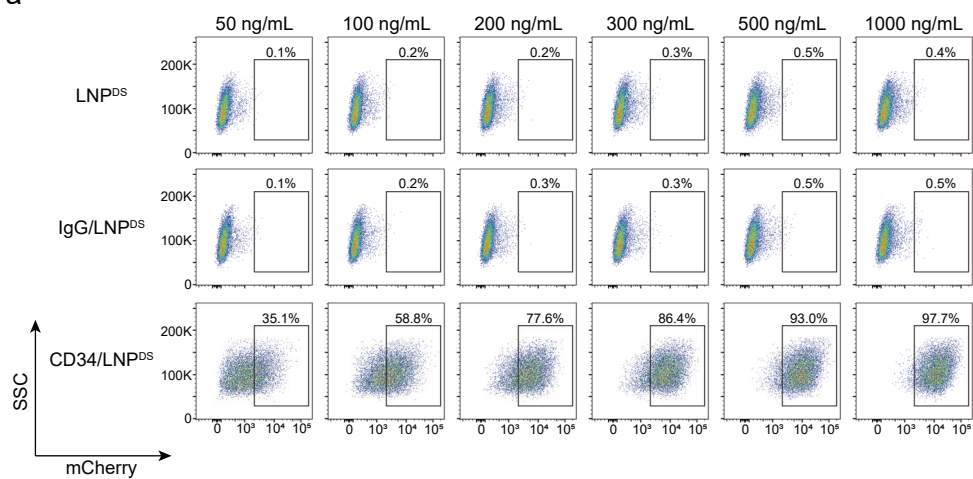


Supplementary Fig. 4 Evaluation of transfection efficiency and cell viability in CD34⁺ K562 cells mediated by CD34/LNP^{DS} delivery.

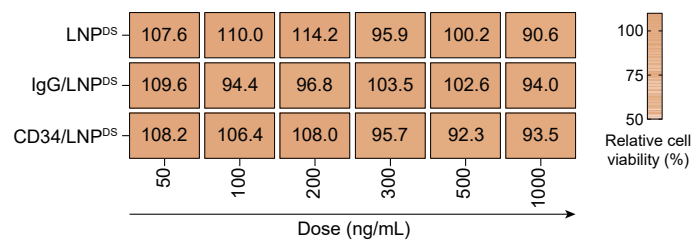
(a) Representative flow cytometry plots showing CD34/LNP^{DS}-mCherry transfection efficiency (% mCherry⁺ cells) in CD34⁺ K562 cells. Cells were plated at a density of 1×10^5 cells/mL and treated with varying concentrations of CD34/LNP^{DS} ranging from 50 ng/mL to 1,000 ng/mL, followed by flow cytometric analysis.

(b) Assessment of CD34⁺ K562 cell viability using the CellTiter-Lumi assay. Cells were incubated with LNP^{DS}, IgG/LNP^{DS} or CD34/LNP^{DS} at concentrations ranging from 50 to 1,000 ng/mL for 48 hours (n = 3 biologically independent samples).

a



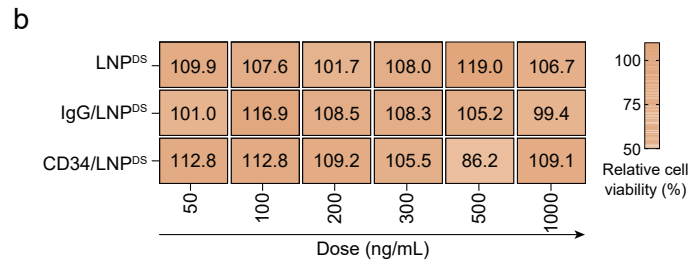
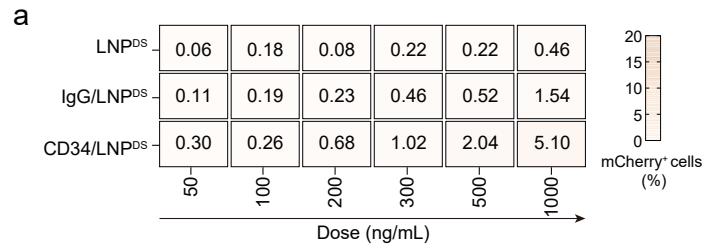
b



Supplementary Fig. 5 Evaluation of transfection efficiency and cell viability in WT K562 cells mediated by CD34/LNP^{DS} delivery.

(a) Representative flow cytometry plots showing CD34/LNP^{DS}-mCherry transfection efficiency (% mCherry⁺ cells) in WT K562 cells. Cells were plated at a density of 1×10^5 cells/mL and treated with varying concentrations of LNP^{DS}, IgG/LNP^{DS} or CD34/LNP^{DS} ranging from 50 ng/mL to 1,000 ng/mL, followed by flow cytometric analysis.

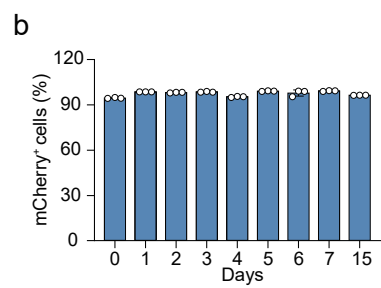
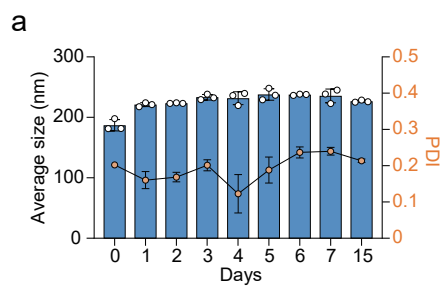
(b) Assessment of WT K562 cell viability using the CellTiter-Lumi assay. Cells were incubated with LNP^{DS}, IgG/LNP^{DS} or CD34/LNP^{DS} at concentrations ranging from 50 to 1,000 ng/mL for 48 hours (n = 3 biologically independent samples).



Supplementary Fig. 6 Assessment of the physicochemical characteristics and transfection efficacy of CD34/LNP^{DS} following prolonged storage.

(a) CD34/LNP^{DS} (Ab/Mal = 0.20) were formulated and stored at 4 °C. Over a period of 15 days, the dynamic light scattering technique was employed to monitor the temporal variations in both the average size and PDI of the CD34/LNP^{DS} formulations.

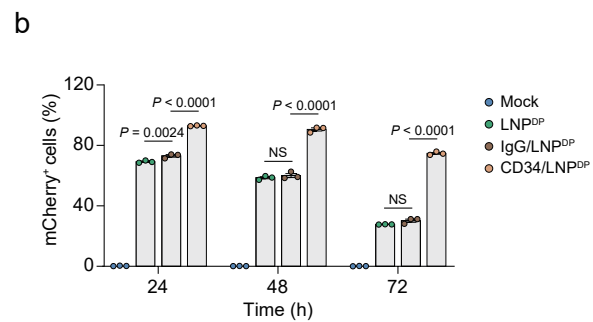
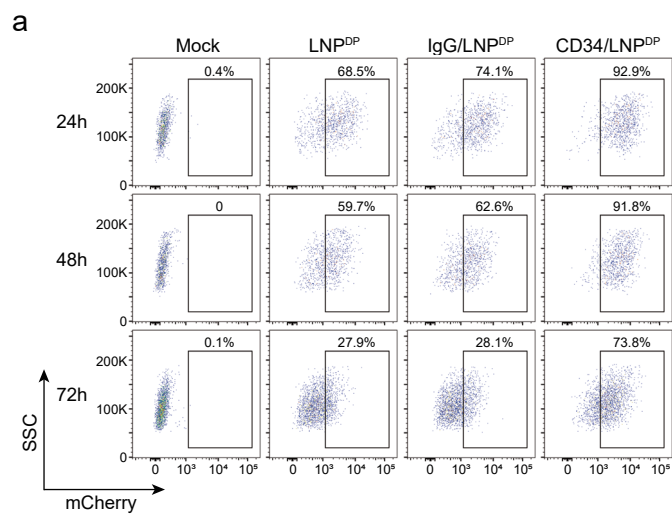
(b) The transfection efficiency of CD34/LNP^{DS} was evaluated following a 48-hour co-incubation with CD34⁺ K562 cells. A concentration of 500 ng/mL CD34/LNP^{DS} was administered. Data are presented as mean $\pm$ s.d. (n=3 biologically independent samples).



Supplementary Fig. 7 The optimized CD34/LNP^{DP} formulation exhibited further enhancement in transfection efficiency within CD34⁺ K562 cells.

(a) Representative flow cytometry plots showing the mRNA delivery efficiency by LNP^{DP}, IgG/LNP^{DP} or CD34/LNP^{DP} after co-incubation periods of 24, 48 and 72 h with CD34⁺ K562 cells. A concentration of 500 ng/mL LNPs was utilized.

(b) Quantitative analysis of the transfection efficiency (% mCherry⁺ cells) across distinct LNP^{DP} formulations. Data are presented as mean $\pm$ s.d. (n = 3 biologically independent samples). Statistical significance was analyzed using one-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparisons test. NS, not significant.

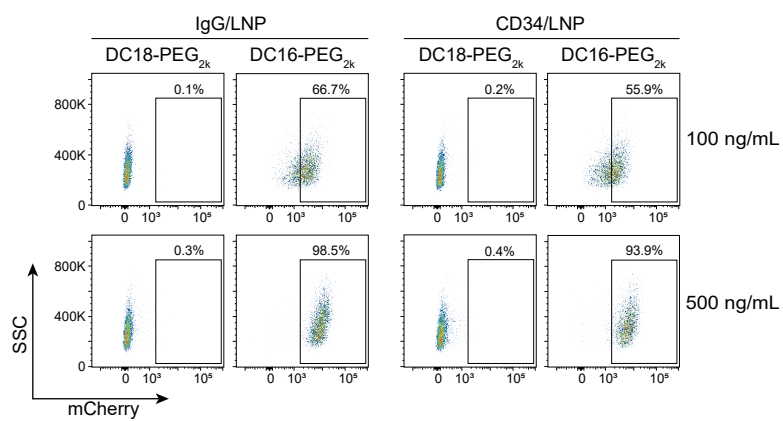


Supplementary Fig. 8 Evaluation of the transfection efficiency mediated by IgG/LNPs or CD34/LNPs in WT K562 cells.

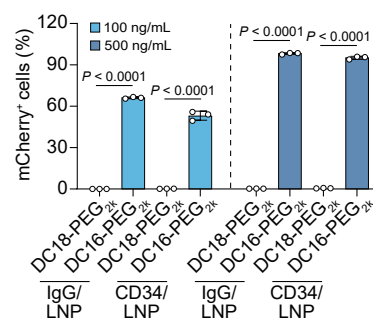
(a) Representative flow cytometry plots showing mRNA delivery efficiency in WT K562 cells following treatment with IgG/LNPs or CD34/LNPs formulated with DC18-PEG_{2k} or DC16-PEG_{2k} at indicated doses.

(b) Quantitative analysis of transfection efficiency (% mCherry⁺ cells) across distinct LNP formulations. Data are presented as mean $\pm$ s.d. (n = 3 biologically independent samples). Statistical significance was analyzed using two-way ANOVA with Šídák's multiple comparisons test.

a



b

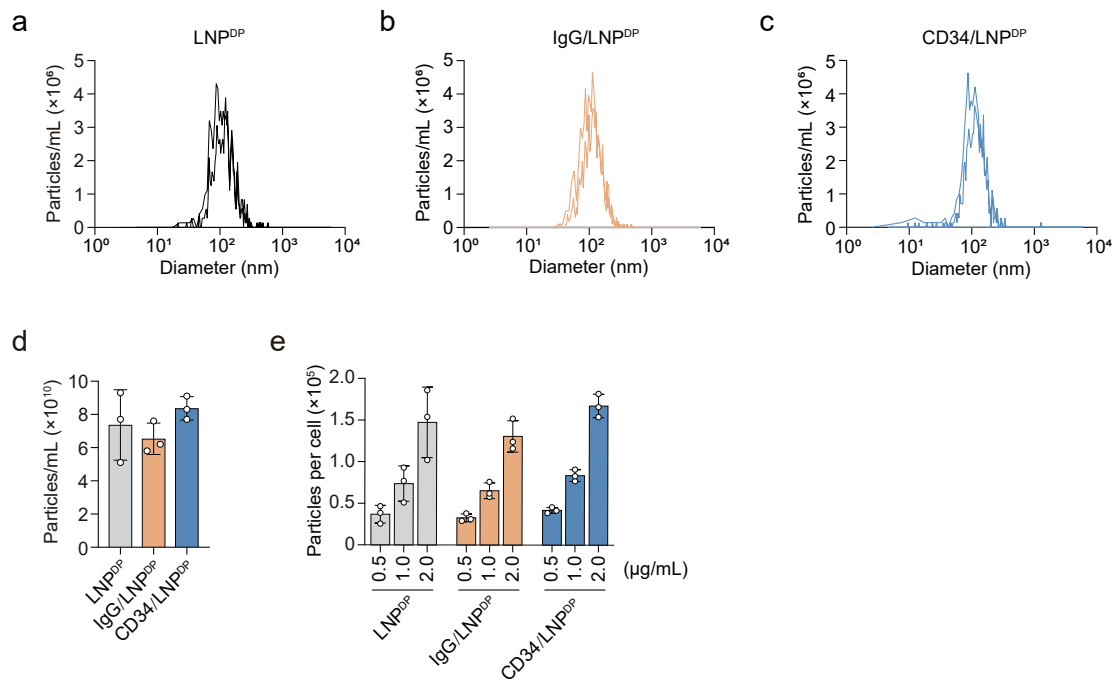


Supplementary Fig. 9 Size distribution of LNPs and estimation of LNP number per cell utilized in transfection of CD34⁺ K562 cells.

(a-c) Nanoparticle tracking analysis (NTA) of LNP^{DP} **(a)**, IgG/LNP^{DP} **(b)**, and CD34/LNP^{DP} **(c)** formulations at a concentration of 2 µg/mL.

(d) Quantification of LNP concentration (nanoparticles per mL) for each LNP^{DP} formulation.

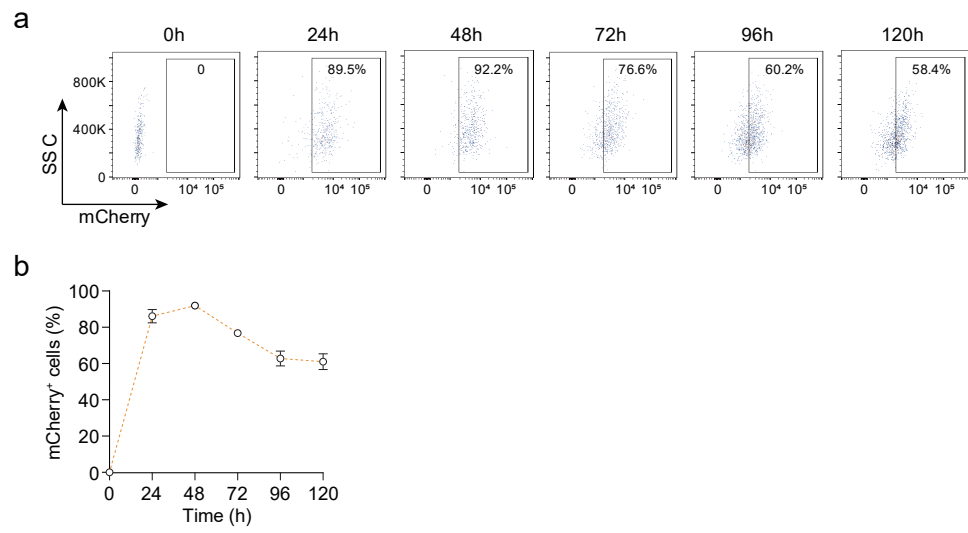
(e) Calculated average nanoparticles per cell, derived from NTA-measured particle concentrations and a cell seeding density of 5×10^5 cells/mL. Data are presented as mean $\pm$ s.d. (n = 3 biologically independent samples).



Supplementary Fig. 10 Dynamics of % mCherry⁺ cells within CD34⁺ K562 cells following CD34/LNP^{DP}-mCherry transfection.

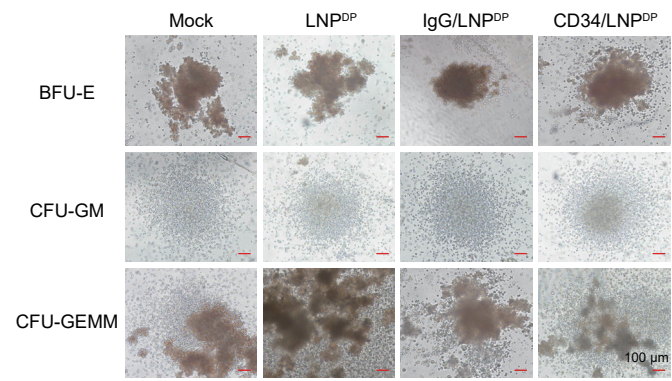
(a) Representative flow cytometry plots showing the percentage of mCherry⁺ cells at the indicated time points (0-120 hours) following treatment with 500 ng/mL CD34/LNP^{DP}-mCherry.

(b) Quantification of the percentage of mCherry⁺ cells over time. Data are represented as mean $\pm$ s.d. (n = 3 biologically independent samples).



Supplementary Fig. 11 CFU assay of CD34⁺ HSPCs treated with various LNP^{DP} formulations at a concentration of 4 µg/mL for 24 hours.

Colonies were imaged on day 14 of differentiation. Scale bar, 100 µm.



Supplementary Fig. 12 Proliferation and transcriptomic profiling of CD34⁺ HSPCs treated with various LNP formulations at equivalent transfection efficiency.

(a) Equivalent mCherry mRNA transfection efficiency in CD34⁺ HSPCs mediated by LNP^{DP} and IgG/LNP^{DP} at a high concentration of 2 µg/mL, or by CD34/LNP^{DP} at a low concentration of 0.5 µg/mL.

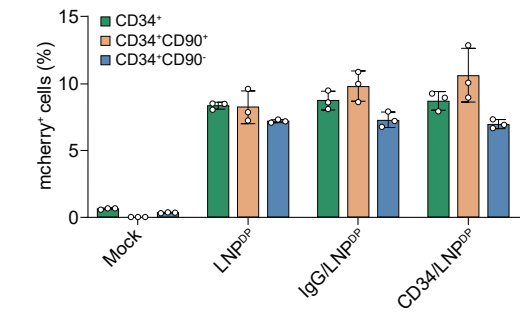
(b) Proliferation curves of CD34⁺ HSPCs over time following treatment with various LNP^{DP} formulations at equivalent mCherry mRNA transfection efficiency (related to panel **a**).

(c) PCA of transcriptomic profiles of CD34⁺ HSPCs following treatment with various LNP^{DP} formulations at equivalent mCherry mRNA transfection efficiency (related to panel **a**).

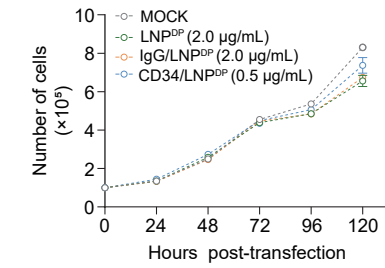
(d) Heatmap of normalized expression values for selected genes across treatment groups.

Data are represented as mean ± s.d. (n = 3 biologically independent samples).

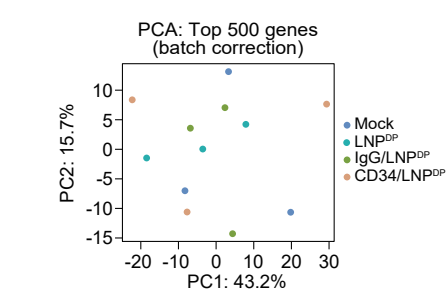
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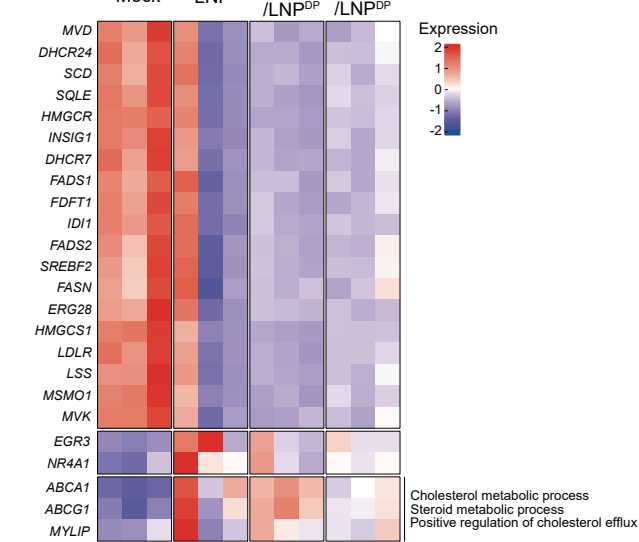
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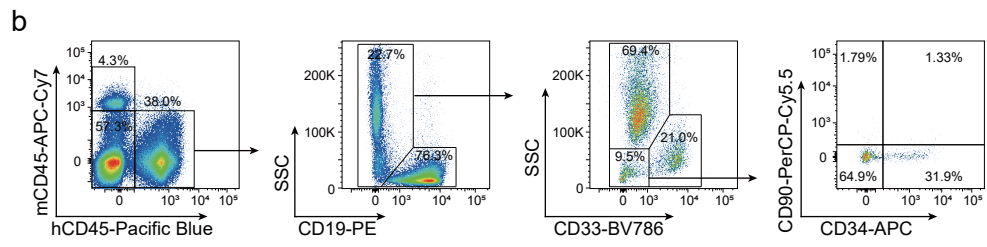
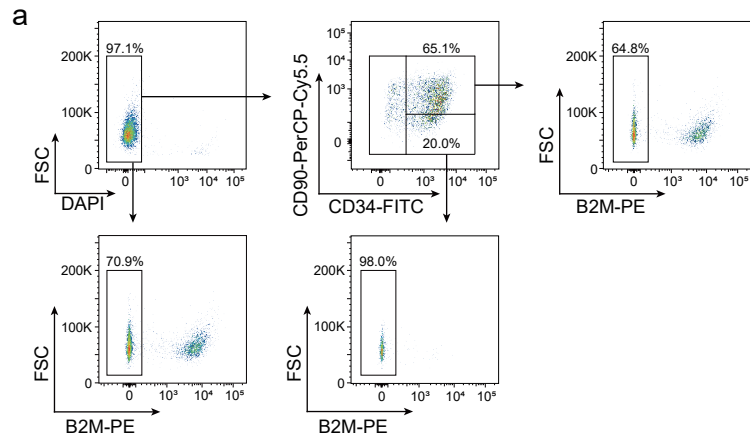
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Supplementary Fig. 13 Flow cytometric gating strategies for *ex vivo* cultured CD34⁺ HSPCs and bone marrow samples from NOG immunodeficient mice engrafted with CD34⁺ HSPCs.

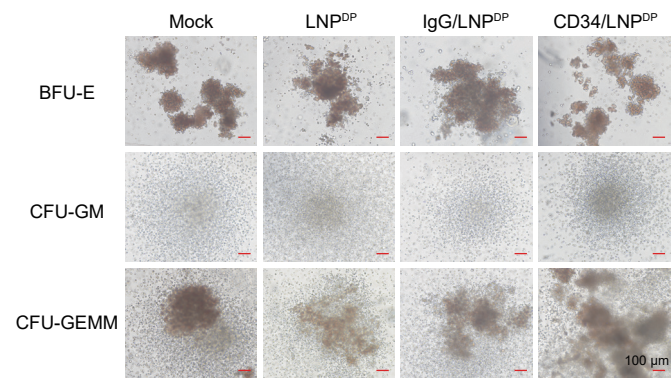
(a) Gating strategy to quantify B2M⁺ cells within total CD34⁺ HSPCs, CD34⁺CD90⁺ and CD34⁺CD90⁻ subsets following *ex vivo* *B2M* editing.

(b) Flow cytometric gating strategy to identify distinct human hematopoietic cell subsets within the bone marrow of humanized NOG mice. *B2M*-edited CD34⁺ HSPCs were transplanted into NOG mice, and bone marrow samples were collected for flow cytometry analysis after 12 weeks. Human cells: hCD45⁺mCD45⁻; mouse cells: hCD45⁻mCD45⁺; B cells: hCD45⁺CD19⁺; myeloid cells: hCD45⁺CD33⁺; HSPCs: hCD45⁺CD19⁻CD33⁻CD34⁺CD90⁺.



Supplementary Fig. 14 CFU assay of *B2M*-edited CD34⁺ HSPCs mediated by CD34/LNP^{DP}.

Colonies were imaged on day 14 of differentiation. Scale bar, 100 μ m.



Supplementary Fig. 15 Profiling of erythroid differentiation and *BCL11A* editing in CD34/LNP^{DP}-treated HSPCs.

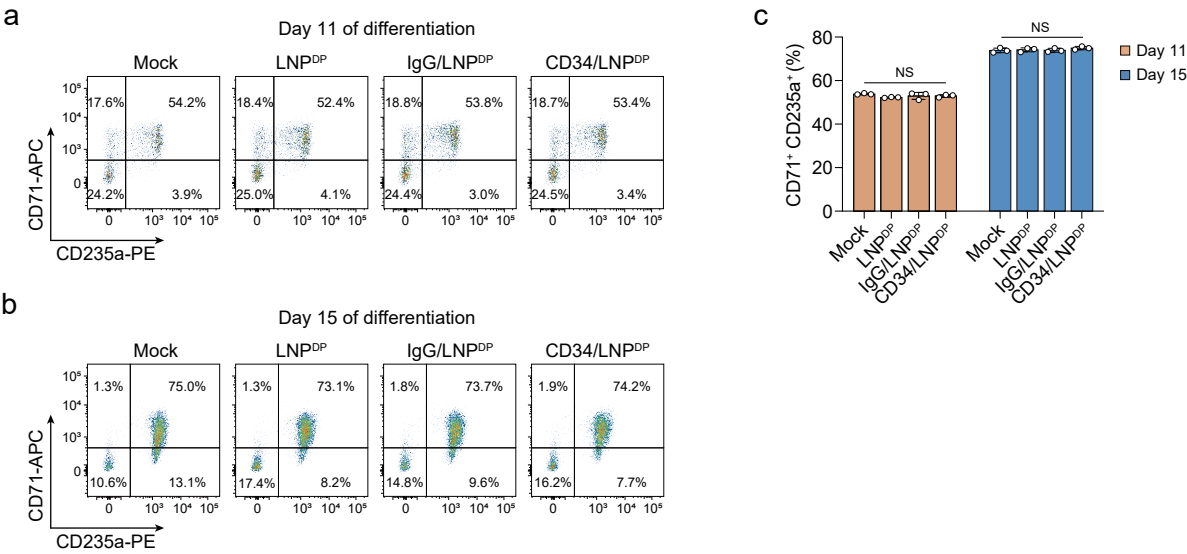
(a-b) Representative flow cytometry profiles illustrating the cellular compositions in erythroid cultures after 11- and 15-day *ex vivo* differentiation indicated by the surface marker CD71 and CD235a.

(c) Quantification of the percentage of CD71⁺CD235a⁺ cells in erythroid cultures after 11- and 15-day *ex vivo* differentiation.

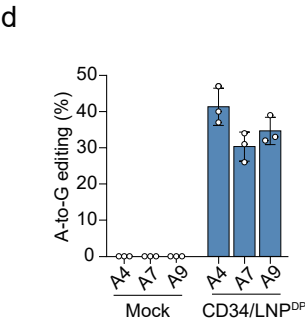
(d) ABE8e-mediated editing efficiency at the *BCL11A* core enhancer in HSPCs delivered by CD34/LNP^{DP} as determined by Sanger sequencing.

Data are represented as mean $\pm$ s.d. (n = 3 biologically independent samples). Statistical significance was analyzed using one-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparisons test. NS, not significant.

Cellular composition analysis of *ex vivo* erythroid differentiation



ABE8e-mediated editing efficiency at the *BCL11A* core enhancer in HSPCs delivered by CD34/LNP^{DP}



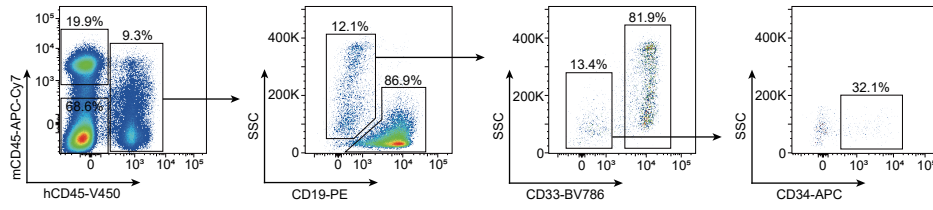
Supplementary Fig. 16 Representative gating strategy for the analysis of StayGold⁺ populations in the bone marrow of humanized mice.

(a) Flow cytometric gating strategy to identify distinct human hematopoietic cell subsets within the bone marrow of humanized mice. Human cells: hCD45⁺mCD45⁻; mouse cells: hCD45⁻mCD45⁺; B cells: hCD45⁺CD19⁺; myeloid cells: hCD45⁺CD33⁺; HSPCs: hCD45⁺CD19⁻CD33⁻CD34⁺.

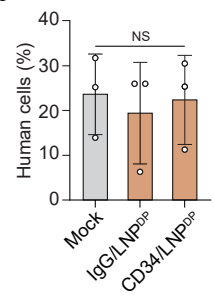
(b) The human cell chimerism level defined as $\text{hCD45}^+ / (\text{hCD45}^+ + \text{mCD45}^+)$, was assessed by flow cytometry. Data are represented as mean $\pm$ s.d. (n = 3 biologically independent samples). Statistical significance was analyzed using one-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparisons test. NS, not significant.

(c) Quantitative assessment of StayGold⁺ cell percentages across subpopulations of bone marrow from humanized mice.

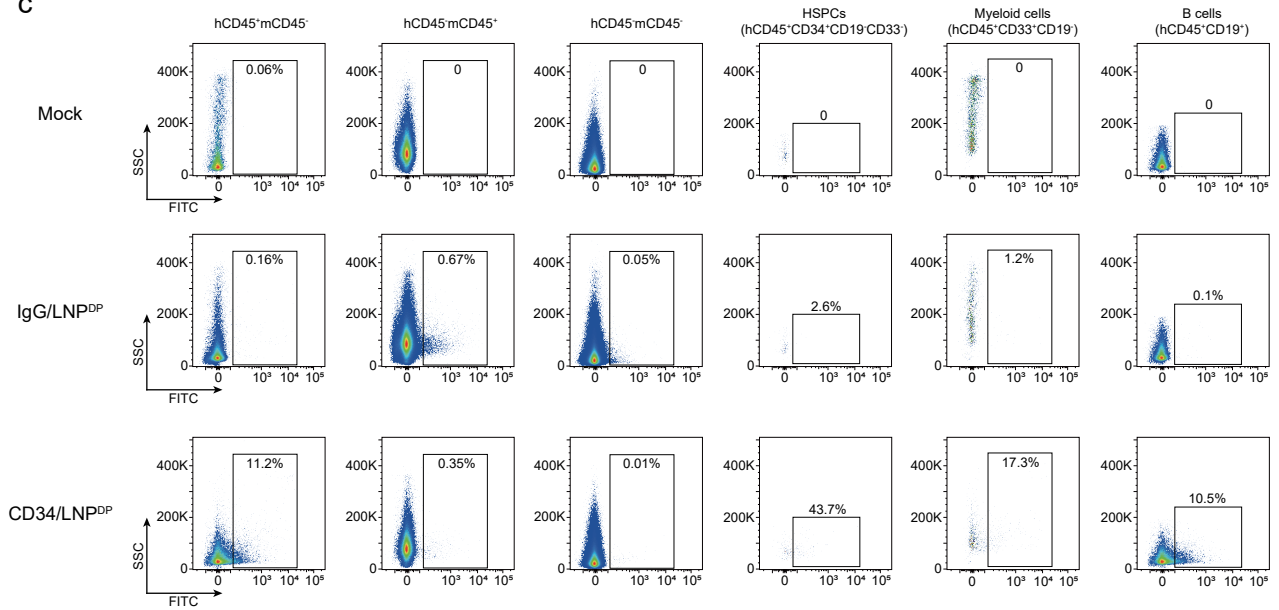
a



b



c



Supplementary Fig. 17 *In vivo* off-target editing analysis of LNP^{DP} formulations using a conserved sgRNA and miR-122- SpCas9 mRNA.

(a) Human-mouse conserved sgRNA sequence used for *in vivo* off-target analysis. A schematic showing the sgRNA-targeting site (blue) and PAM sequence (orange). *BCL11A*-homo, human-mouse homologous region of *BCL11A*.

(b) *In vivo* editing efficiency in humanized NOG mice of LNP^{DP} or CD34/LNP^{DP}-encapsulated miR-122- SpCas9 mRNA/sg*BCL11A*-homo delivered via intrafemoral (IF) or intravenous (IV) injection, as determined by Sanger sequencing. Data are represented as mean $\pm$ s.d. (n = 3 biologically independent samples). Statistical significance was analyzed using one-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparisons test.

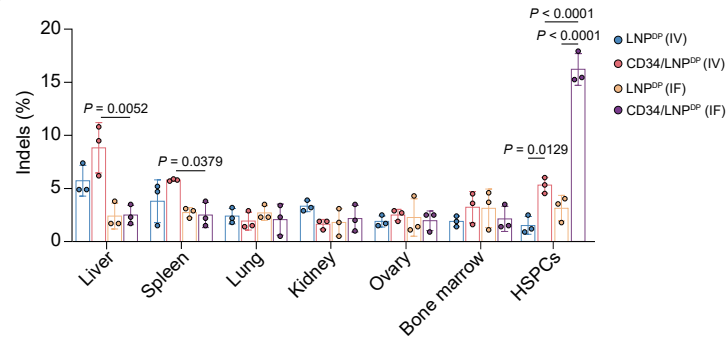
a

BCL11A (a homologous genomic region shared between the *Homo sapiens* and *Mus musculus* genomes)

...CTTTAAGATGCCATTTTCGACTGGCCAGGCCAGAGTAGAGAGGCAGTTGCTGAAGCGCA...

sg*BCL11A*-homo →

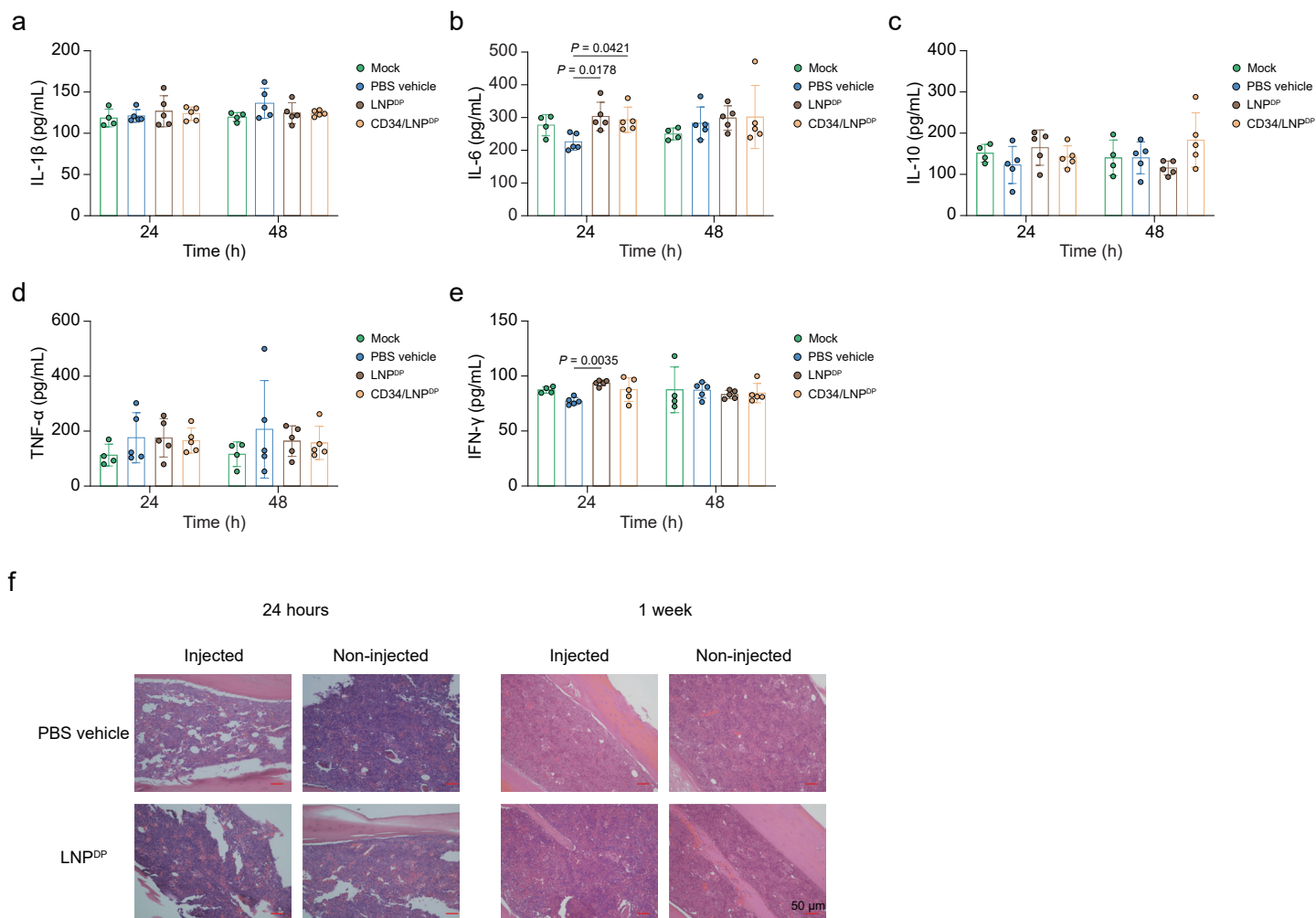
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Supplementary Fig. 18 Assessment of bone marrow inflammatory response and architecture integrity following intrafemoral delivery of CD34/LNP^{DP} in mice.

(a-e) Inflammatory cytokine dynamics in the bone marrow microenvironment of humanized NOG mice after bilateral intrafemoral administration of LNP^{DP} or CD34/LNP^{DP} formulations encapsulating luciferase-encoding mRNA at 1 mg mRNA/kg. Concentrations of IL-1 β **(a)**, IL-6 **(b)**, IL-10 **(c)**, TNF- α **(d)** and IFN- γ **(e)** were quantified in the bone marrow aspirate supernatants collected at 24 h and 48 h post-administration. Data represents mean $\pm$ s.d. (n = 4 mice for mock and n = 5 mice for treated group). Statistical significance was analyzed using one-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparisons test.

(f) Representative hematoxylin and eosin staining of serial sections from the injected and contralateral non-injected femurs of C57BL/6J mice, harvested at 24 h and 1 week post-injection. LNP^{DP}-Luc or PBS vehicles were administered into the left distal femur. Scale bar, 50 μ m.



Supplementary Tables

Supplementary Table 1. Primers for plasmid construction.

Name	Sequence (5' - 3')
CD34-CDS-fwd	CTCCGACAGACTGAGTCGGACCGGTGCCACCATGCTGGTCCGCAG GGG
CD34-CDS-rev	CAGAGAGAAGTTTGTGCGCCGGATCCCAATTCGGTATCAGCCACC ACGTG

Supplementary Table 2. 5' and 3' UTR sequences for mRNA constructs.

	Sequence (5' - 3')
5' UTR	AACUAGUAUUCUUCUGGUCCCCACAGACUCAGAGAGAACC CGCCACC
3' UTR	CUGGUACUGCAUGCACGCAAUGCUAGCUGCCCCUUUCCCG UCCUGGGUACCCCGAGUCUCCCCCGACCUCGGGUCCCAG GUAUGCUCACCACCUCCACCUGCCCCACUCACCACCUCUGC UAGUUC CAGACACC UCCCAAGCACGCAGCAAUGCAGCUCA AAACGCUUAGCCUAGCCACACCCCCACGGGAAACAGCAGU GAUUAACCUUUAGCAAUAAACGAAAGUUUAACUAAGCUAUA CUAACCCCAGGGUUGGUCAAUUUCGUGCCAGCCACACC

Supplementary Table 3. Primers for Sanger sequencing.

Name	Forward primer (5' - 3')	Reverse primer (5' - 3')
Human- <i>BCL11A</i> - homo	TACACACATCAGACACCTTCTCTC	CCCTTGAGCTGCCGAGAAAC
Mouse- <i>BCL11A</i> - homo	TGTATCAGAGGCAAGGTAACCAC	GAGCTGCTGAGAAACCCAC
Human- <i>BCL11A</i> - SpCas9/ABE	ATGGACCTTGGGTGCTATTC	AATGCTGCCTCCTGGTATTT

Supplementary Table 4. Primers for targeted deep sequencing.

Name	Forward primer (5' - 3')	Reverse primer (5' - 3')
Human- <i>B2M</i>	GGTGCCTGATATAGCTTGACACC	CTTCAATGTCGGATGGATGAA ACC
Human- <i>ELANE5-1/2</i>	GTCCAGCTTCCCCACCTTG	GCGTTGGATGATAGAGTCGAT CC
Human- <i>ELANE2</i>	CGTGGCCCTTCATGGTGTC	ACCTCACAGACCGGGACG
Human- <i>BCL11A</i>	TAACACACCAGGGTCAATACAAC	ATCACCAAGAGAGCCTTCCG

Supplementary Table 5. Primers for RT-qPCR.

Gene	Forward primer (5' - 3')	Reverse primer (5' - 3')
Human- <i>BCL11A</i>	AATTTGCCCCAAACAGGAA	GTGGGGATTAGAGCTCCATGT
Human- <i>HBB</i>	CTGAGTGAGCTGCACTGTGA	TTGGACAGCAAGAAAGCGAG
Human- <i>HBG</i>	GTGGAAGATGCTGGAGGAGAAA	TGCCATGTGCCTTGACTTTG
Human- <i>Gapdh</i>	GAGTCAACGGATTTGGTCGT	GACAAGCTTCCCGTTCTCAG