**Supplementary Materials and Methods**

*Gene expression analysis*

Expression profiling analysis was performed with the RT2 Profiler Cell Surface Markers PCR Array (Qiagen, Germany) according to the manufacturer’s instructions (<http://www.sabiosciences.com/rt_pcr_product/HTML/PAHS-055Z.html>).   
The resulting expression profiles were validated by qPCR, as previously described (1). Expression levels were normalized for the endogenous reference GAPDH gene.

Primers sequences were:

*CD126* forward primer (F-HU-CD126-EMC): 5’-GCTCCACGACTCTGGAAACT-3’;   
*CD126* reverse primer (R-HU-CD126-EMC): 5’-GACGACAAAGGCTGTGCTCT-3’.  
*GP130* forward primer (F-HU-GP130-EMC): 5’-TGTTGACGTTGCAGACTTGG-3’;   
*GP130* reverse primer (R-HU-GP130-EMC): 5’-TTCACTGCAGTTTGTGTGCTAA-3’.

ALDH primers were as previously described (1).

As for the RT-qPCR analysis of EMT genes, primers sequences were:

*GAPDH* forward 5’-GCCAAAAGGGTCATCATCTC-3’;

*GAPDH* reverse: 5’-GGTGCTAAGCAGTTGGTGGT-3’ (2).

*KRT9* forward 5’-GCACTACAGCCACTACTACACGA-3’;

*KRT9* reverse 5’-CTCATGCGCAGAGCCTGTT-3’ (3).

*CDH1* forward 5’-ATTCTGATTCTGCTGCTCTTG-3’;

*CDH1* reverse 5’-AGTAGTCATAGTCCTGGTCTT-3’ (4).

*CHD2* forward 5’-GATGTTGAGGTACAGAATCGT-3’;

*CHD2* reverse 5’-GGTCGGTCTGGATGGCGA-3’ (4).

*VIM* forward 5’-TCTACGAGGAGGAGATGCGG-3’;

*VIM* reverse 5’-GGTCAAGACGTGCCAGAGAC-3’ (5).

*FN1* forward 5’-CCCACCGTCTCAACATGCTTAG-3’;

*FN1* reverse 5’-CTCGGCTTCCTCCATAACAAGTAC-3’ (5).

*SNAI1* forward 5’-CAGACCCACTCAGATGTCAA-3’;

*SNAI1* reverse 5’-CATAGTTAGTCACACCTCGT-3’ (4).

*SNAI2* forward 5’-GGTCAAGAAGCATTTCAAC-3’;

*SNAI2* reverse 5’-GGTAATGTGTGGGTCCGA-3’ (4).

*ZEB1* forward 5’-TTCAGCATCACCAGGCAGTC-3’;

*ZEB1* reverse 5’-GAGTGGAGGAGGCTGAGTAG-3’ (6).

*ZEB2* forward 5’-GCTACGACCATACCCAGGAC-3’;

*ZEB2* reverse 5’-TCTCGCCCGAGTGAAGCC-3’ (6).

*TWIST1* forward 5’-GGGAGTCCGCAGTCTTAC-3’;

*TWIST1* reverse 5’-CCTGTCTCGCTTTCTCTTT-3’ (4).

*TWIST2* forward 5’-GGTCCATGTCCGCCTCCCACTA-3’;

*TWIST2* reverse 5’-CCCCCAAACATAAGACCCAGAAG-3’ (7).

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