

Fluorescent *in vivo* editing reporter (FIVER): A novel multispectral reporter of *in vivo* genome editing

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Abstract Advances in genome editing technologies have created opportunities to treat rare genetic diseases, which are often overlooked in terms of therapeutic development. Nonetheless, substantial challenges remain: namely, achieving therapeutically beneficial levels and kinds of editing in the right cell type(s). Here we describe the development of FIVER (fluorescent *in vivo* editing reporter) — a modular toolkit for *in vivo* detection of genome editing with distinct fluorescent read-outs for non-homologous end-joining (NHEJ), homology-directed repair (HDR) and homology-independent targeted integration (HITI). We demonstrate that fluorescent outcomes reliably report genetic changes following editing with diverse genome editors in primary cells, organoids and *in vivo*. We show the potential of FIVER for high-throughput unbiased screens, from small molecule modulators of genome editing outcomes in primary cells through to genome-wide *in vivo* CRISPR cancer screens. Importantly, we demonstrate its *in vivo* application in postnatal organ systems of interest for genetic therapies — retina and liver. FIVER will broadly help expedite the development of therapeutic genome surgery for many genetic disorders.

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Key words CRISPR | fluorescent reporter | *in vivo* | genome editing | DNA repair | HITI | HDR | genetic screens | target tissue | ciliopathy | rare disease

Introduction

The development of ever more precise and efficient genome editing technologies is revolutionising the ability to specifically and precisely alter the genome. Several clinical trials are currently underway using zinc finger nucleases (ZFNs), transcription activator-like effector nucleases (TALENs) and CRISPR/Cas9 (clustered regularly interspaced short palindromic repeats (CRISPR)/CRISPR associated protein 9) based approaches for therapeutic targeted genome editing (1,2). The majority of these trials make use of *ex vivo* editing, however most genetic diseases would require somatic *in vivo* genome editing.

A major hurdle is the ability to efficiently monitor genome editing *in vivo*. Limited methods exist

40 to track where, when and what types of editing outcomes occur *in vivo*, with most relying on next
41 generation sequencing (NGS) to monitor changes at the DNA level (3–8). However, NGS technologies
42 lack the spatial and temporal resolution needed to define which, and what proportion of cell
43 types are edited in complex tissues. There is a need for simple, robust and cost-effective systems
44 allowing for rapid detection of genome editing *in vivo*. Genetically-encoded fluorescent reporters
45 offer one potential solution, allowing a rapid visual read-out at both a cellular and organismal level
46 which can be easily quantified both by microscopy and flow cytometry.

47 All genome editing methods rely on the cell's own machinery to repair the targeted DNA double
48 strand breaks (DSBs). Broadly speaking, they use one of two major pathways (9): non-homologous
49 end-joining (NHEJ), often leading to small insertions or deletions (indels); and when a template is
50 available, homology directed repair (HDR), resulting in precise correction of disease-causing mu-
51 tations. Several fluorescence-based reporter systems for monitoring the outcomes of genome
52 editing have been described (10–17). However, these are predominantly *in vitro* reporters, relying
53 on transiently transfected constructs or stable cell lines, or where available *in vivo* are limited to the
54 detection of NHEJ events (14,15). *In vitro*, these reporters have been useful to expedite discovery of
55 small molecule modifiers of genome editing outcomes. However, efficiently expanding their use
56 *in vivo* towards precisely controlled genome editing, or 'genome surgery', in target cells requires a
57 different approach.

58 To address these issues, we have developed a novel fluorescent *in vivo* editing reporter (FIVER)
59 mouse model, which generates a visible, quantifiable fluorescence read-out of different editing
60 outcomes in real time with single cell resolution. This allows direct visualisation of NHEJ, HDR
61 and homology-independent targeted integration (HITI) based (18) editing by distinct fluorescent
62 outcomes. FIVER allows rapid side-by-side evaluation of different delivery methods (i.e., viral or
63 non-viral) and payloads by altering choice of genome editors or repair sequences used. It also
64 lends itself to screening small molecule modifiers of DNA repair pathways which might promote
65 desired editing outcomes *in vivo*.

66 Importantly, we have developed the FIVER genome editing toolkit to be used in the widely avail-
67 able *mTmG* Cre-reporter mouse model (19) to facilitate rapid uptake by the community. Here, we
68 describe an *in vivo* fluorescent genome editing reporter, which is the first that is able to monitor a
69 range of genome editing outcomes, both templated (HDR or HITI) and non-templated (NHEJ), via
70 multispectral readouts of these events throughout the entire lifespan of the animal and their fates
71 in complex tissues.

72 Results

73 **Development of a tricolour fluorescent reporter for CRISPR-based genome editing**
74 In order to design a responsive and reproducible *in vivo* genome editing reporter, we set out to
75 develop a modular system that could be used for *in vivo*, *ex vivo*, and primary cell line genome
76 editing in mice. To facilitate widespread uptake by the scientific community, we repurposed the
77 previously described *mTmG* Cre-mediated recombination reporter mouse (19), in which a ubiqui-
78 tous CAG promoter drives expression of a floxed membrane-tagged tdTomato gene followed by a
79 strong transcriptional stop element at the *Rosa26* locus, which is in turn followed by a membrane-
80 tagged EGFP. Targeting genome editing tools to create DSBs near both loxP sites flanking the td-
81 Tomato gene should yield results analogous to Cre-mediated recombination, such that a shift in
82 fluorescence, from tdTomato to EGFP, would reflect genome editing activity. Henceforth, we will
83 refer to heterozygous *mTmG* animals as FIVER for clarity.

84 We identified *Streptococcus pyogenes* Cas9 (SpCas9) guide-RNA (gRNA) target sites in a conserved
85 region adjacent to both loxP sites flanking the tdTomato coding sequence. We selected the top scor-
86 ing (in terms of predicted off target profile) SpCas9 gRNAs targeting both the antisense and sense
87 strands — T1 and T2, respectively (**Figure 1A**). In primary mouse embryonic fibroblasts (MEFs),
88 both guides result in excision of the intervening tdTomato coding sequence; we have focused on

89 T1. Repair of this lesion results in distinct fluorescent changes depending on the repair pathway
90 employed. When no repair template is supplied, the lesion is repaired via NHEJ which can allow
91 expression of the downstream membrane-tagged EGFP (mEGFP). In addition, when asynchronous
92 cleavage occurs, indels at the upstream site can lead to loss of tdTomato expression, but not re-
93 moval of the tdTomato cassette resulting in total loss of fluorescence (**Figure 1A**). By simultane-
94 ously supplying an exogenous repair template, the membrane tag of EGFP can be exchanged for a
95 nuclear localised signal from histone H2B, resulting in expression of a nuclear EGFP (nEGFP) (**Figure**
96 **1 and figure supplement 1**). H2B provided a more robust nuclear signal than canonical NLS se-
97 quences (**Figure 1-figure supplement 1B**) and thus was ideal for automated detection, across cell
98 types and cell cycle stages, and was used for all subsequent experiments.

99 In addition to reporting on NHEJ or HDR, we included a read-out for HITI, an NHEJ-based method
100 for specifically altering the genome (18). Cas9-induced DSBs in both the target locus and in the de-
101 livered repair plasmid allow the fragment generated during editing to integrate into the genomic
102 locus without the need for sequence homology. As this method relies on the NHEJ pathway, it can
103 occur at any point during the cell cycle and in terminally differentiated cells (20,21). HITI has great
104 therapeutic potential in that an exogenous cDNA could be introduced under endogenous tran-
105 scriptional control. We designed a HITI donor construct consisting of a nuclear-localised TagBFP
106 followed by a strong stop sequence. This read-out is both spectrally distinct from tdTomato and
107 EGFP and spatially distinct from the membrane localisation of the reporter. Following excision of
108 tdTomato, HITI repair leads to TagBFP knock-in. This can be visualised as a switch from membrane
109 tdTomato fluorescence (mtdTomato) to nuclear localised TagBFP fluorescence (nTagBFP) (**Figure**
110 **1A-C**).

111 To test the system, we generated immortalised MEF lines from FIVER mice and transiently trans-
112 fected them with ribonucleoprotein (RNP) comprised of SpCas9 protein complexed with either
113 T1 or T2 gRNAs. Confocal imaging and flow cytometry confirmed transition from mtdTomato to
114 mEGFP, accounting for approximately 30% of events, indicative of NHEJ repair following excision
115 of the tdTomato cassette (**Figure 1B-C**). In addition, there was a total loss of fluorescence following
116 CRISPR/Cas activity in approximately 30% of cells, due to larger deletions or imperfect repair which
117 truncated the fluorophore or altered the reading frame. In some instances (particularly in immor-
118 talised MEF lines, accounting for approximately 10% of events, but not *in vivo*) we also observed a
119 tdTomato⁺/EGFP⁺ population following editing; primarily observed using flow cytometry. As a re-
120 sult, we took the total of tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁺, tdTomato⁺/EGFP⁺ and tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁻ populations
121 to represent overall levels of editing.

122 To assess HDR pathways, we constructed both single- and double-stranded repair templates,
123 containing homology arms of various lengths (35 bp to 780 bp) and have focused on ~700 bp
124 arms flanking an H2B nuclear localisation signal encoded on a minicircle vector (**Figure 1-figure**
125 **supplement 1A**) which initially gave the highest and most consistent rates of repair (**Figure 1-fig-**
126 **ure supplement 1C**). Following co-delivery of this construct (MC.HDR) with CRISPR/Cas machinery,
127 nEGFP fluorescence could be observed (**Figure 1B**). The edited cells were also subjected to flow cy-
128 tometric analysis (**Figure 1C**). A shift in fluorescent profile was observed following editing, however,
129 nEGFP and mEGFP expression were not distinguishable by intensity using standard flow cytometry
130 (**Figure 1-figure supplement 2**), necessitating an image analysis-based approach to quantify HDR,
131 as described later.

132 The method of delivering editing machinery can impact editing outcomes and will vary depend-
133 ing on application (22). To address this, we have built a toolkit to allow delivery of CRISPR compo-
134 nents and repair constructs in various forms (RNP, plasmid or minicircle) either by non-viral meth-
135 ods (i.e., nucleofection, lipid nanoparticles and hydrodynamic injection) or virally (i.e., lentivirus
136 and adeno-associated virus).

137 As the FIVER system reports on DSB-repair outcomes, we postulated that any site specific nu-
138 clease generating DSBs could be employed. While the bulk of work has focused on SpCas9, differ-
139 ences in nuclease size, types of ends generated and availability of specific PAM motifs close to the

140 target may warrant use of a range of genome editors. Therefore, we designed gRNAs for use with
141 *Staphylococcus aureus* Cas9 (SaCas9) and *Acidaminococcus* sp. Cas12a (AsCas12a) (previously Cpf1)
142 to target the same conserved region flanking tdTomato. We assayed the activity of AsCas12a and
143 demonstrated the ability of FIVER to report its editing outcomes (**Figure 1D-F**). In addition, potential
144 target sites for TALENs are listed in **Supplementary Table 1**. In summary, FIVER is a robust
145 fluorescent reporter of genome editing events for a range of DSB-inducing genome editors.

146 **DNA sequencing confirms fidelity of fluorescent read-outs reflecting underlying
147 genetic changes**

148 In order to confirm the reliability of the fluorescent read-out and identify the origin of the dou-
149 ble positive tdTomato⁺/EGFP⁺ population, we carried out deep sequencing on edited cell popu-
150 lations. MEFs transfected with SpCas9-RNP-based editing reagents and minicircle HDR template
151 (MC.HDR) were sorted into four populations — tdTomato⁺/EGFP⁻ (unedited), tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁺
152 (NHEJ and HDR), tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁻ (NHEJ) and tdTomato⁺/EGFP⁺ (unexpected outcome) (**Figure**
153 **2-figure supplement 1C**). The reporter locus was amplified from genomic DNA isolated from each
154 population by PCR (**Figure 2A**) and the amplicons sequenced on both the Ion Torrent and Min-
155 ION sequencing platforms. This combinatorial approach allowed us take advantage of the longer
156 MinION reads for detection of larger structural changes, while retaining the greater base calling
157 accuracy of Ion Torrent reads.

158 We first employed variant calling to map the Ion Torrent reads to a predicted reference se-
159 quence based on anticipated outcomes (**Figure 2B-C**). Using this approach, >90% of reads within
160 the tdTomato⁺/EGFP⁻ (unedited) population aligned with the reference sequence. However, 21.28%
161 of reads across the upstream gRNA target site demonstrated indels and a further 7.67% of reads
162 harboured indels at the downstream gRNA site, compared to 1.5% and 1.47%, respectively for
163 the untreated (Cas9 only) population. This suggests low levels of cleavage and subsequent repair
164 by NHEJ at the two sites that were under-reported by FIVER, with a maximum false negative rate
165 of 26.48%. However, individual Ion Torrent reads are not long enough to cover both gRNA sites,
166 meaning it is not possible to confirm if one or both sites contained indels in individual cells. For the
167 tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁺ (NHEJ and HDR) population 84.53% of reads align to the expected NHEJ repair
168 product, that is, complete removal of the tdTomato cassette between the two gRNA sites (**Figure**
169 **2C**). In contrast, only 15.37% and 14.3% of reads from Cas9 only and tdTomato⁺/EGFP⁻ (unedited)
170 populations, respectively, aligned to the predicted NHEJ repair product (**Figure 2C**). However, these
171 predominantly align across the EGFP gene and not the repair junction (**Figure 2C**). This suggests a
172 high accuracy of the mEGFP readout.

173 Using *de novo* genome assembly, the MinION reads were successfully assembled in order to
174 form the major sequences present within the input. When aligned to the reference, sequences
175 from the Cas9 only control were assembled with very little error (**Figure 2-figure supplement**
176 **1A**). In addition, three sequences assembled from the tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁺ (NHEJ and HDR) popu-
177 lation were all lacking tdTomato, confirming fidelity of this readout for NHEJ. Interestingly, the
178 tdTomato⁺/EGFP⁺ double positive population consists of a mixture of sequences with (88%) and
179 without (12%) tdTomato, confirming that this population results from editing at the locus. The
180 tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁻ (NHEJ) population also appeared to be a mixture, with some sequences missing
181 segments of tdTomato; which could explain their loss of fluorescence (**Figure 2-figure supple-**
182 **ment 1A**).

183 To confirm the origins of the tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁻ (NHEJ) double negative population, we gener-
184 ated new PCR primers which anneal within the CAG promoter (**Figure 2A**, PCR 5 and 6) to capture
185 larger deletions. This revealed that almost all tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁻ double-negative cells harbour
186 large deletions that extend into the EGFP sequence and/or the promoter, anticipated to cause a
187 total loss of fluorescence (**Figure 2-figure supplement 1B**). Taken together with the MinION data,
188 this population results from larger indels, either with or without loss of tdTomato, confirming that
189 this population is also the result of NHEJ repair.

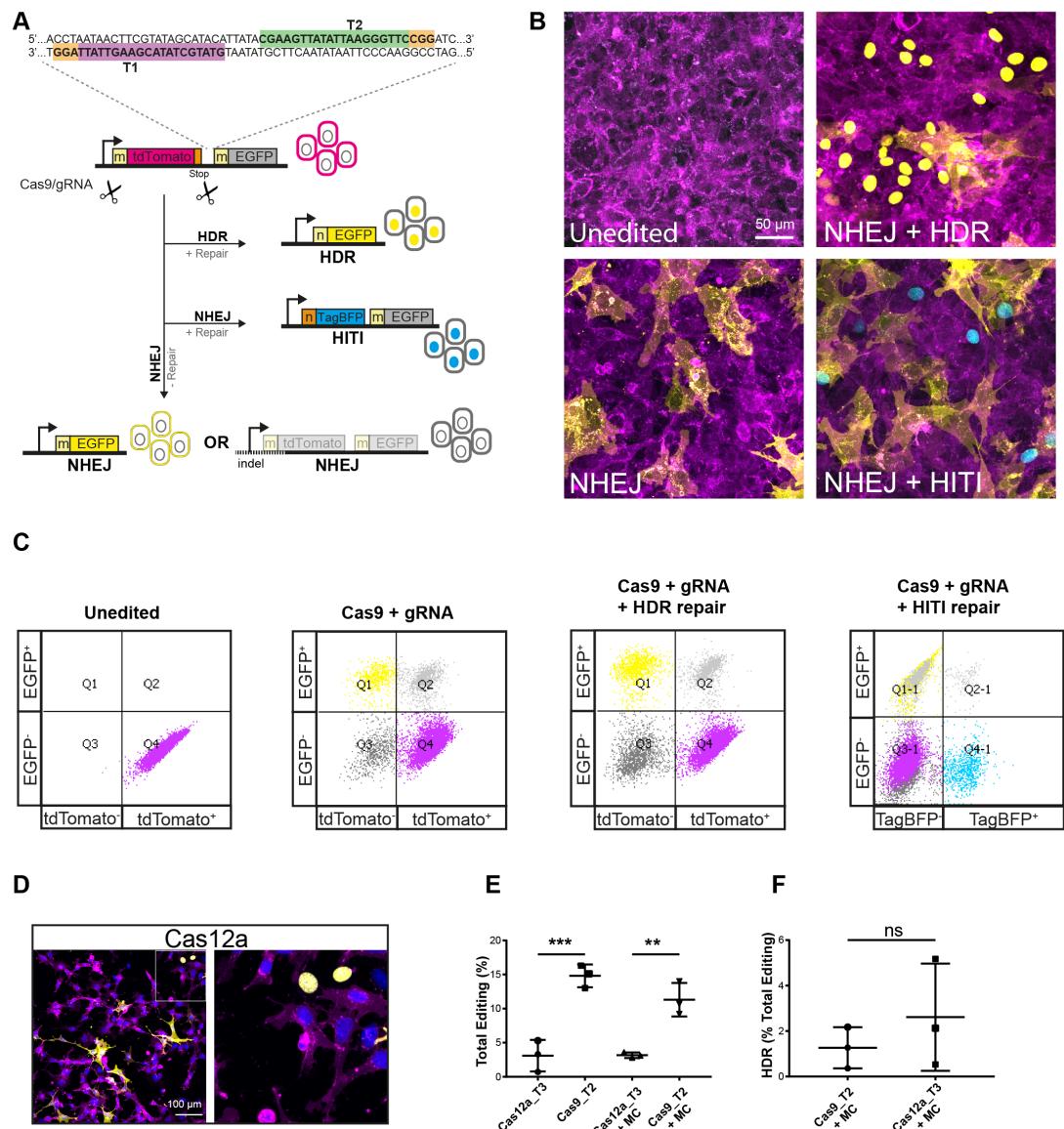


Figure 1. Overview of fluorescent *in vivo* editing reporter (FIVER) system. (A) Schematic of FIVER system. We identified conserved gRNA sites on both the sense (T2; green box) and antisense (T1; purple box) strands flanking the tdTomato cassette within the FIVER locus (PAM sites indicated by orange boxes). Here membrane-tagged tdTomato is expressed by every cell. When CRISPR machinery and either T1 or T2 gRNA are provided, the tdTomato cassette is excised. Without the provision of an exogenous repair template non-homologous end joining (NHEJ) repair is employed to repair the lesion, allowing expression of downstream membrane-tagged EGFP, observed with a shift from membrane tdTomato (mtdTomato) to membrane EGFP fluorescence (mEGFP). Alternatively, asynchronous cleavage and/or larger indels (dotted line) can cause disruption of the tdTomato resulting in loss of all fluorescence. If a template containing homology to the locus is provided, the lesion can be repaired by homology directed repair (HDR), in our system this replaces the membrane tag of the downstream EGFP for a nuclear tag (H2B) resulting in a shift from mtdTomato to nuclear EGFP (nEGFP) fluorescence. Finally, if a homology-independent targeted integration (HITI) repair template is provided, then NHEJ can be employed to knock in a membrane-tagged TagBFP construct, resulting in a shift from mtdTomato to nuclear TagBFP (nTagBFP) fluorescence. m = MARCKS membrane tag, n = H2B nuclear localisation signal. (B) Representative confocal images of mouse embryonic fibroblast (MEF) lines derived from FIVER mice and edited with and without repair constructs. Images are maximum intensity projections from z-stacks. (C) Representative flow cytometry plots following editing in MEF lines. All editing outcomes can be observed, however nEGFP and mEGFP are indistinguishable by this method (see **Figure 1-figure supplement 2**). FACS was carried out 5 days post transfection. (D) Representative confocal images of MEFs edited using AsCas12a machinery with T3 gRNA. Nuclei are stained with Hoechst. (E) Editing in MEF lines using Cas9 is significantly more efficient than using AsCas12a ($p < 0.001$; one-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparison), $n = 10,000$ single cells, $N = 3$ technical replicates. (F) There is no significant difference in the ability of SpCas9 and AsCas12a to drive HDR in MEF lines using minicircle (MC) delivery of repair constructs ($p = 0.257$; unpaired t-test), $n > 6,000$ cells, $N = 3$ technical replicates.

Figure 1-Figure supplement 1. Overview of fluorescent *in vivo* editing reporter (FIVER) system.

Figure 1-Figure supplement 2. Overview of fluorescent *in vivo* editing reporter (FIVER) system.

190 To investigate HDR, targeted resequencing of the tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁺ (NHEJ and HDR) population
191 was carried out. Primers spanning the entire locus were used to ensure that the long-
192 lived minicircle donor template was not erroneously amplified (23,24) (**Figure 2A**, PCR 7). Of the
193 tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁺ population, 19.4% of reads aligned to the predicted HDR sequence containing
194 integrated H2B (**Figure 2D**). Given the rate of total editing here (**Figure 2-figure supplement 1C**),
195 this means approximately 1.32% of total cells underwent HDR, consistent with the range of HDR
196 efficiency we have previously observed in MEFs (**Figure 1-figure supplement 1B**) and a similar
197 proportion to that described in the literature (25–27). This suggests that observed nEGFP is consis-
198 tent with changes at the DNA level.

199 **Rapid transitions in fluorescence upon genome editing**

200 To determine the dynamics of the fluorescence transitions upon genome editing, we performed
201 time-lapse imaging of primary MEFs following transfection with plasmid derived CRISPR, with and
202 without minicircle repair constructs (MC.HDR or MC.HITI) (**Figure 3A** and **Figure 3-video 1**). For
203 each condition, 30 random fields were imaged and edited cells identified based on final fluores-
204 cence. Mean intensities for each channel were calculated for each time point using the manual
205 tracking Fiji plugin (**Figure 3B**).

206 In all edited cells, mtdTomato fluorescence rapidly decreased (magenta line, **Figure 3B**). In the
207 case of NHEJ, this signal was concurrently replaced with mEGFP fluorescence, increasing gradually
208 in mean intensity over time (yellow line, **Figure 3B**). In the case of HDR, nEGFP accumulates gradu-
209 ally before rapidly increasing in intensity, then plateauing (green line, **Figure 3B**). Similarly, for HITI
210 editing, nTagBFP accumulates gradually at first, before rapidly increasing then plateauing approx-
211 imately 40 hours post transfection (blue line, **Figure 3B**). In all cases, the switch in fluorescence
212 occurs rapidly and is complete by 48 hours post-transfection (**Figure 3-video 1**).

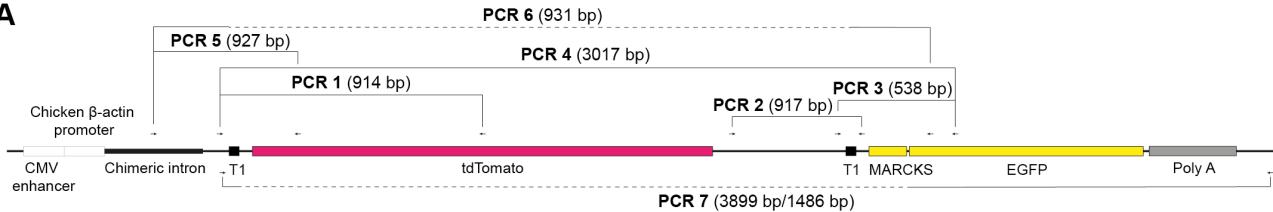
213 **Screening small molecule modulators of genome editing outcome with FIVER**

214 One of the limitations of genome editing as a therapeutic tool is its dependence on endogenous
215 DNA repair pathways to resolve targeted nicks, cuts and/or breaks generated by the nucleases. The
216 reliance on HDR to generate specific changes in the genomes of mammalian somatic cells, where
217 this is not the dominant DNA repair pathway (28), has led to the search for methods to manipulate
218 repair mechanism choice. This includes the identification of small molecules to bias outcomes
219 towards precise repair by stimulating HDR as well as inhibiting NHEJ. However, it remains largely
220 unknown whether all cell types will respond similarly in resolving genome edited DSBs and whether
221 there are cell-type-specific effects of these small molecules.

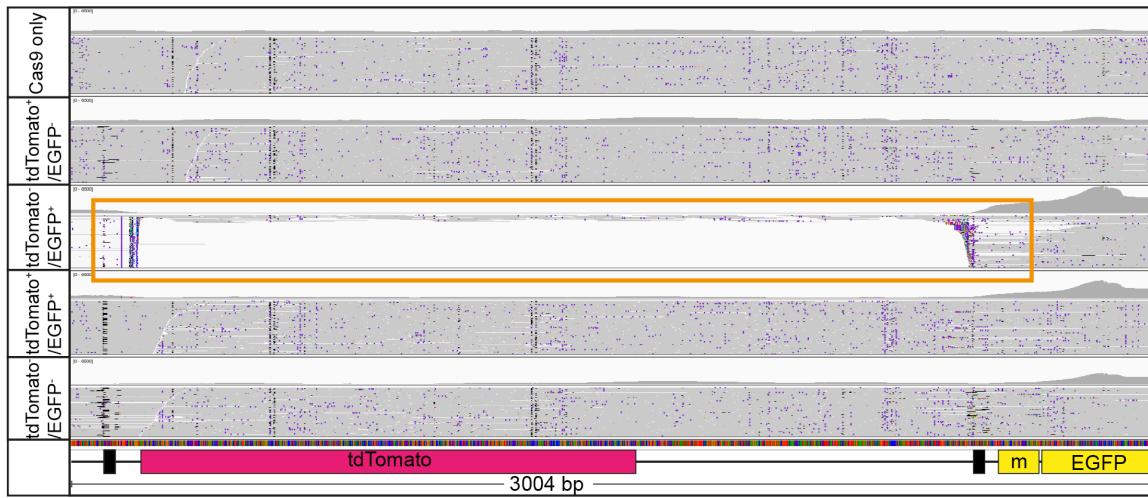
222 Three main classes of small molecule have been shown to be effective at increasing the effi-
223 ciency of HDR: (1) inhibitors of NHEJ (25,29–31); (2) enhancers of the HDR pathway (32–34); and
224 (3) molecules of unknown mechanism(s) (27). FIVER cells are ideal for unbiased screening of com-
225 pounds as image acquisition and analysis can be done in an automated (and blinded) manner and
226 at scale. Initially, we tested five compounds which had been shown previously to increase the ef-
227 ficiency of CRISPR-based HDR, whose mechanisms of action are summarised in **Figure 4A**, to see
228 if effects could be recapitulated in our FIVER MEF lines. Two of these disrupt NHEJ: NU7441, an in-
229 hibitor of DNA-dependent protein kinase catalytic subunit (DNA-PKcs) (31), and an inhibitor of DNA
230 Ligase IV named Scr7 (29). RS-1, an activator of the homologous recombination protein Rad51 (33),
231 has been reported to increase HDR efficiency in response to CRISPR-induced DNA damage. We also
232 tested two molecules identified using a blind screening method for molecules which improved the
233 efficiency of HDR in CRISPR edited cells (27), L755,501, an agonist of the β 3 adrenergic receptor
234 (35), and Brefeldin-A (Brf-A), an inhibitor of ADP ribosylation factor 1 (36).

235 Only NU7441 had a significant effect on HDR, increasing it approximately 2-fold ($p = 0.03$, one-
236 way ANOVA with Dunnett's multiple comparison, $N = 3$, **Figure 4B**). Surprisingly, NU7441 also signifi-
237 cantly increased overall editing (**Figure 4C**) evidenced by an increase in both tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁻ and
238 tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁺ populations (**Figure 4-figure supplement 1A and B**). This is in contrast to the

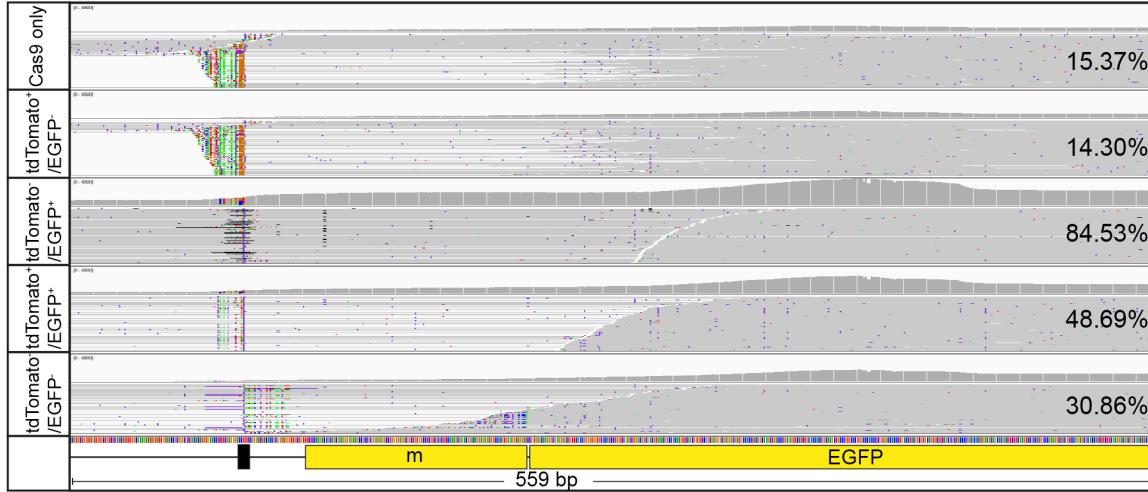
A



B



C



D

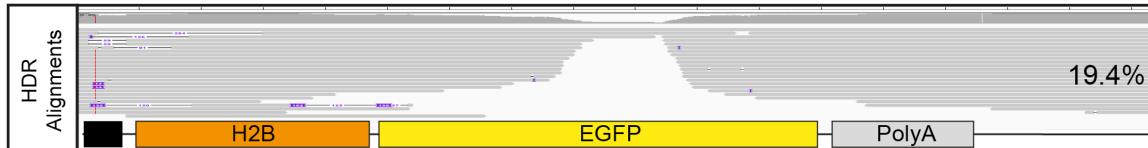
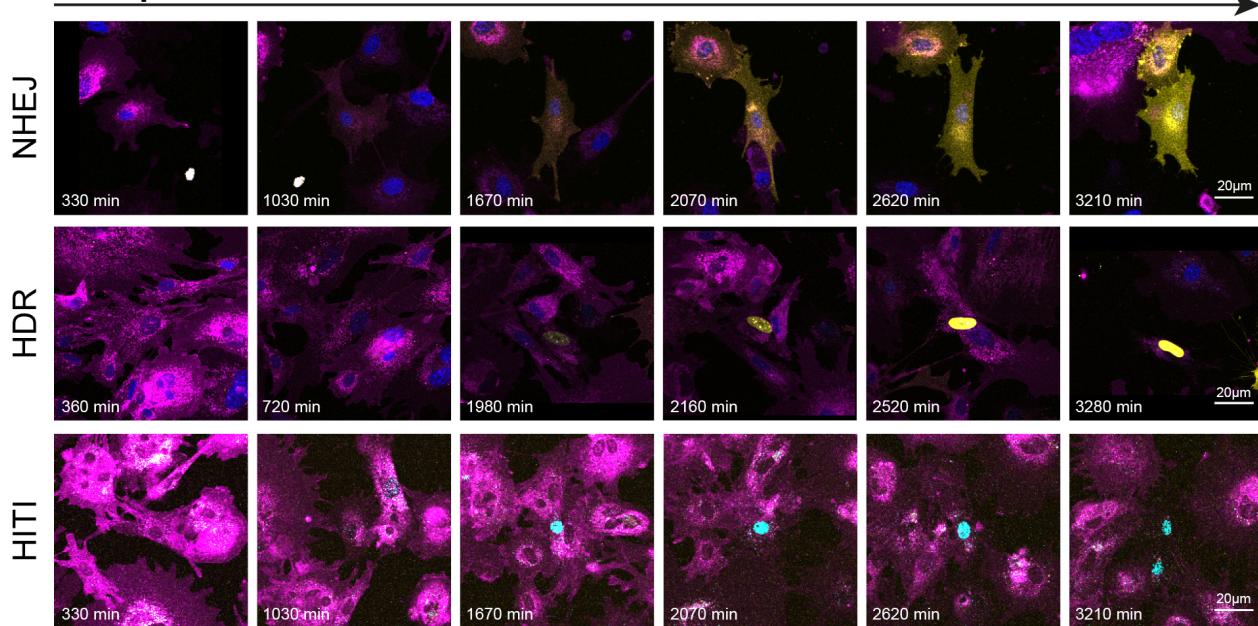


Figure 2. Deep sequencing confirms editing outcomes observed by FIVER. (A) Overview of FIVER locus, with primers and PCRs used for sequencing indicated. (B) Ion Torrent reads from PCR product 4 mapped to the locus for each sorted population of cells. Orange box indicates loss of tdTomato cassette in tdTomato-/EGFP+ population. Filled black boxes indicate T1 target sites, m = MARCKS membrane tag. (C) Ion Torrent reads from PCR product 4 mapped to the predicted NHEJ product (i.e., removal of tdTomato) for each sorted population of cells. Filled black box indicates T1 target region, m = MARCKS membrane tag. Percentage of reads correctly aligned for each population are indicated. (D) Reads from TOPO cloned and sequenced samples from the tdTomato-/EGFP+ population (PCR 7), mapped against the predicted HDR outcome. m = MARCKS membrane tag. The percentage of reads which align are indicated.

Figure 2-Figure supplement 1. Deep sequencing confirms editing outcomes observed by FIVER.

A

Time post transfection →



B

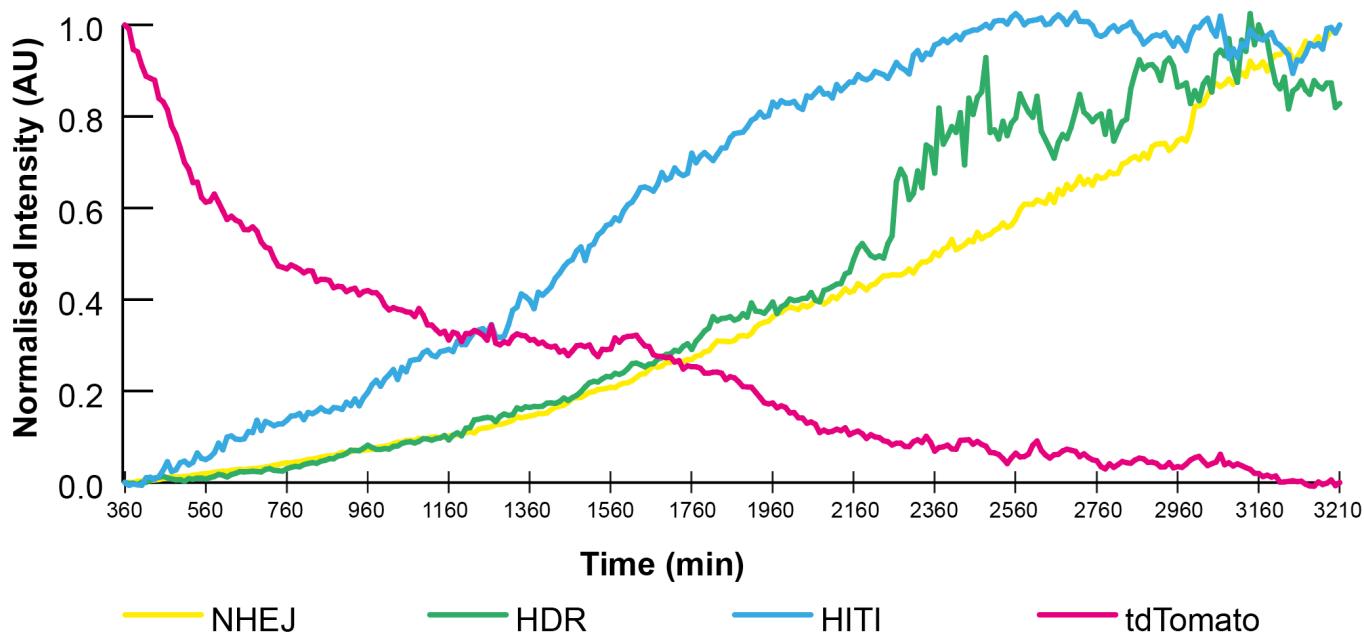


Figure 3. Rapid transition in fluorescent signal following editing in FIVER MEFs. FIVER MEFs were nucleofected with plasmid and minicircle based CRISPR components (pX330-T1, MC.HDR and MC.HITI), then imaged at 30 random points per well in 6-well dishes every 10 min for 48 hours. Edited cells were analysed using the manual tracking plugin for ImageJ. (A) Representative cropped confocal images from time lapses of tracked cells, single z-slices. For NHEJ and HDR samples, nuclei are stained with Hoechst. (B) Means of normalised fluorescence intensity of tracked cells over time, n = 6 HDR, n = 26 NHEJ, n = 21 HITI and n = 53 tdTomato. For full time course see **Figure 3-video 1**.

Figure 3-video 1. Rapid transition in fluorescent signal following editing in FIVER MEFs. FIVER MEFs were nucleofected with plasmid and minicircle based CRISPR components (pX330-T1, MC.HDR and MC.HITI), then imaged at 30 random points per well in 6-well dishes every 10 min for 48 hours. Edited cells were analysed using the manual tracking plugin for ImageJ. Videos show full time lapse for each condition represented in **Figure 3A**. (A) Tracking of NHEJ edited cell. (B) Tracking of HDR edited cell. (C) Tracking of HITI edited cell. Scale bar 20 μ m.

239 decrease seen in the proportion of TagBFP⁺ positive cells after NU7441 treatment compared with
240 DMSO control (**Figure 4D**), indicative of a reduction in NHEJ-dependent HITI. These results were
241 recapitulated with another DNA-PKcs inhibitor (Nedisertib), which had been shown to be more ef-
242 fective than NU7441 (37). While Nedisertib did increase HDR (**Figure 4-figure supplement 1D**), the
243 increase in HDR was the same as with NU7441 despite increasing total editing, tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁺,
244 and tdTomato⁺/EGFP⁻ populations, whilst decreasing TagBFP⁺ and tdTomato⁺/EGFP⁺ populations
245 all to a greater extent (**Figure 4-figure supplement 1E-I**). This demonstrates the ability of FIVER
246 to rapidly and unbiasedly screen for such modulators of DNA editing outcomes.

247 **Rapid preclinical screening of delivery methods *in vitro***

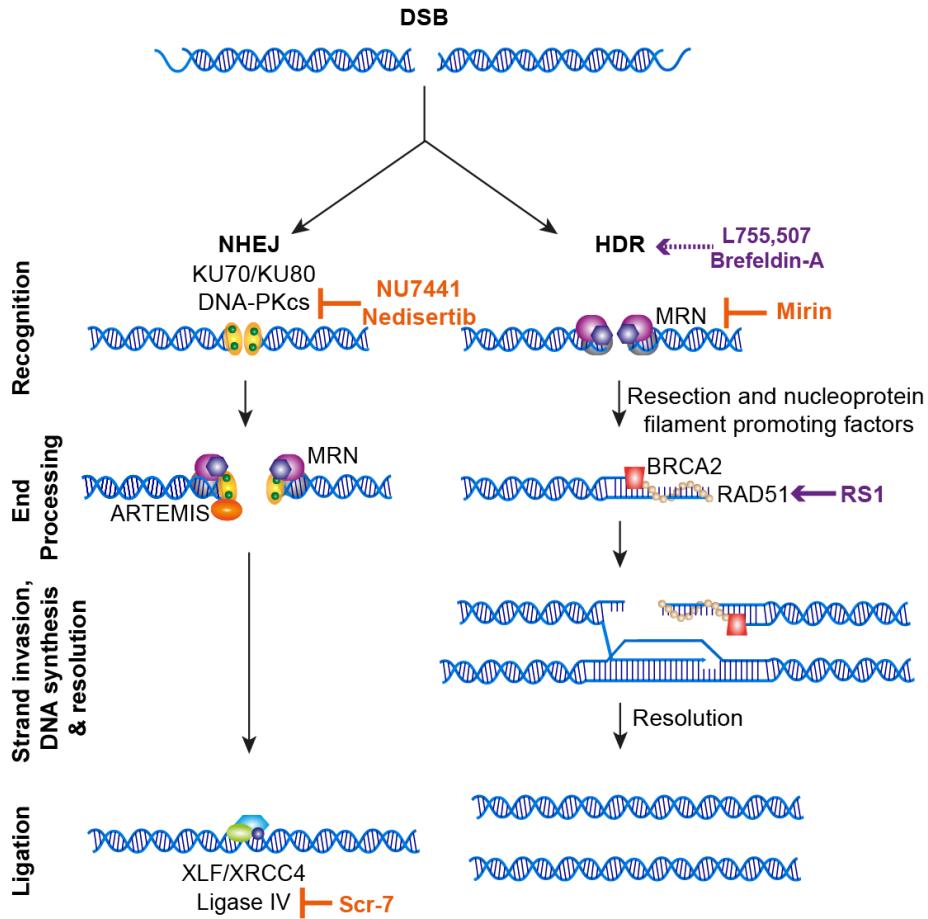
248 Balancing efficacy with safety for delivery tools will be an essential part of the development of a
249 therapeutic somatic genome editing pipeline. This requires use of relevant organotypic and pre-
250 clinical animal models. Accordingly, FIVER was established with the aim of being a modular toolbox
251 for streamlining the development of pre-clinical genome editing therapies for use in any relevant
252 tissue type. Given our interest in genetic diseases of the airways, we derived FIVER primary mouse
253 tracheal epithelial cells (mTECs), from adult reporter mice. These form stratified epithelial sheets
254 composed of 7 cell populations (38), recapitulating the cellular environment *in vivo*. We delivered
255 CRISPR machinery and repair constructs to mTECs varying only the method of introduction to cells
256 using a variety of viral and non-viral lipid nanoparticle (NP) vehicles. As these cultures are repre-
257 sentative of the *in vivo* respiratory environment, they are a powerful *ex vivo* model to prioritise
258 respiratory epithelium tropic viral constructs or NP formulations.

259 We transfected FIVER mTECs using different NP formulations, composed of various lipid and
260 peptide mixtures (39,40). These NP were used to deliver SpCas9-RNPs and MC.HDR to mTEC cul-
261 tures after expansion of the basal cell population. Following maturation, mTECs were analysed for
262 evidence of editing. For all NP formulations tested, NHEJ-based editing was observed — as both
263 mEGFP and a loss of all membrane fluorescence (**Figure 5A**, and arrowhead). However, levels of
264 editing were generally low and no observable HDR events were detected for any NP formulation
265 tested (**Figure 5 – figure supplement 1A**).

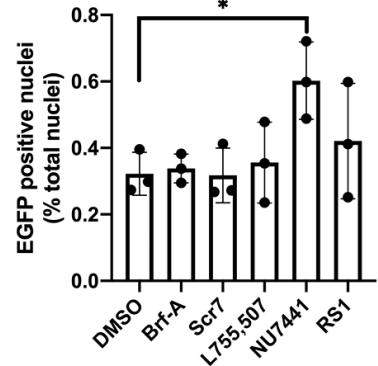
266 In parallel, we transduced FIVER mTECs with SpCas9, gRNA and an HDR template using a dual
267 viral system. Here, the CRISPR machinery was delivered via lentivirus (with its larger packaging
268 capacity) while the HDR templates were delivered via AAV, as AAV is particularly recombinogenic
269 (41,42). We focused on AAV serotypes previously reported to be efficacious in delivering to airway
270 cells (43–46) in order to determine the most efficient type for genome editing applications (**Figure**
271 **5-figure supplement 1B**). Analysis of transduced mTECs showed that all AAV serotypes tested
272 were able to drive observable NHEJ and HDR (**Figure 5-figure supplement 1B**), though serotypes
273 5, 8 and 9 resulted in the greatest levels of HDR (**Figure 5B and figure supplement 1B**), while AAV2
274 failed to drive HDR levels above background (**Figure 5B**, dashed red line). Importantly, we were
275 able to compare levels of editing as well as types of outcomes between viral and non-viral delivery
276 of identical reagents, emphasising the importance of how genome editing tools are introduced
277 into specific cell types.

278 Another organotypic model of translational interest is the 3D liver organoid, which allows us to
279 bridge the gap between 2D cell cultures *in vitro* and *in vivo* studies. Self-renewing liver organoids
280 are useful tools for disease modelling, regenerative medicine and drug screens, exhibiting genetic
281 stability during long-term culture and some elements of liver organ physiology (47). To demon-
282 strate the ability of FIVER to report editing in organoids, we derived 3D hepatic ductal organoids
283 from adult FIVER mice and transduced them using lentiviruses encoding either Cre-recombinase
284 as a positive control or CRISPR machinery. Excision of the tdTomato cassette was observed in
285 organoids treated with either Cre or CRISPR mixes (**Figure 5C**).

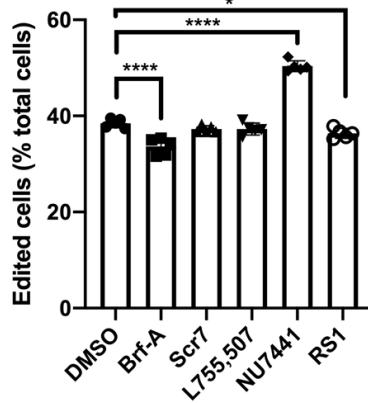
A



B



C



D

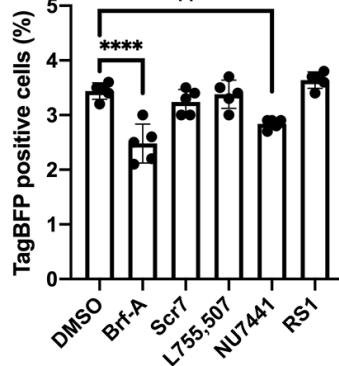


Figure 4. Small molecule modulators of genome editing outcome. FIVER MEFs were treated with small molecules for 24 hours post transfection: Brf-A (0.1 μ M), Scr7 (0.1 μ M), L755,507 (5 μ M), NU7441 (2 μ M) or RS1 (10 μ M). (A) Overview of DSB repair pathways with action of small molecules indicated. Antagonists are indicated in orange, agonists are indicated in purple. (B) EGFP positive nuclei — indicative of HDR — determined by widefield microscopy, n > 9,000 cells, N = 3 technical replicates. (C) Total observed editing, determined by flow cytometry, n = 60,000 cells, N = 5. (D) Total TagBFP⁺ cells, determined by flow cytometry, n = 60,000 cells, N = 5. Significance was tested using one-way ANOVA and Dunnett's multiple comparisons, 0.0021 < p < 0.05 = *, 0.0002 < p < 0.0021 = **, 0.0001 < p < 0.0002 = ***, p < 0.0001 = ****.

Figure 4-Figure supplement 1. Small molecule modulators of genome editing outcome

Figure 4-Figure supplement 2. Small molecule modulators of genome editing outcome

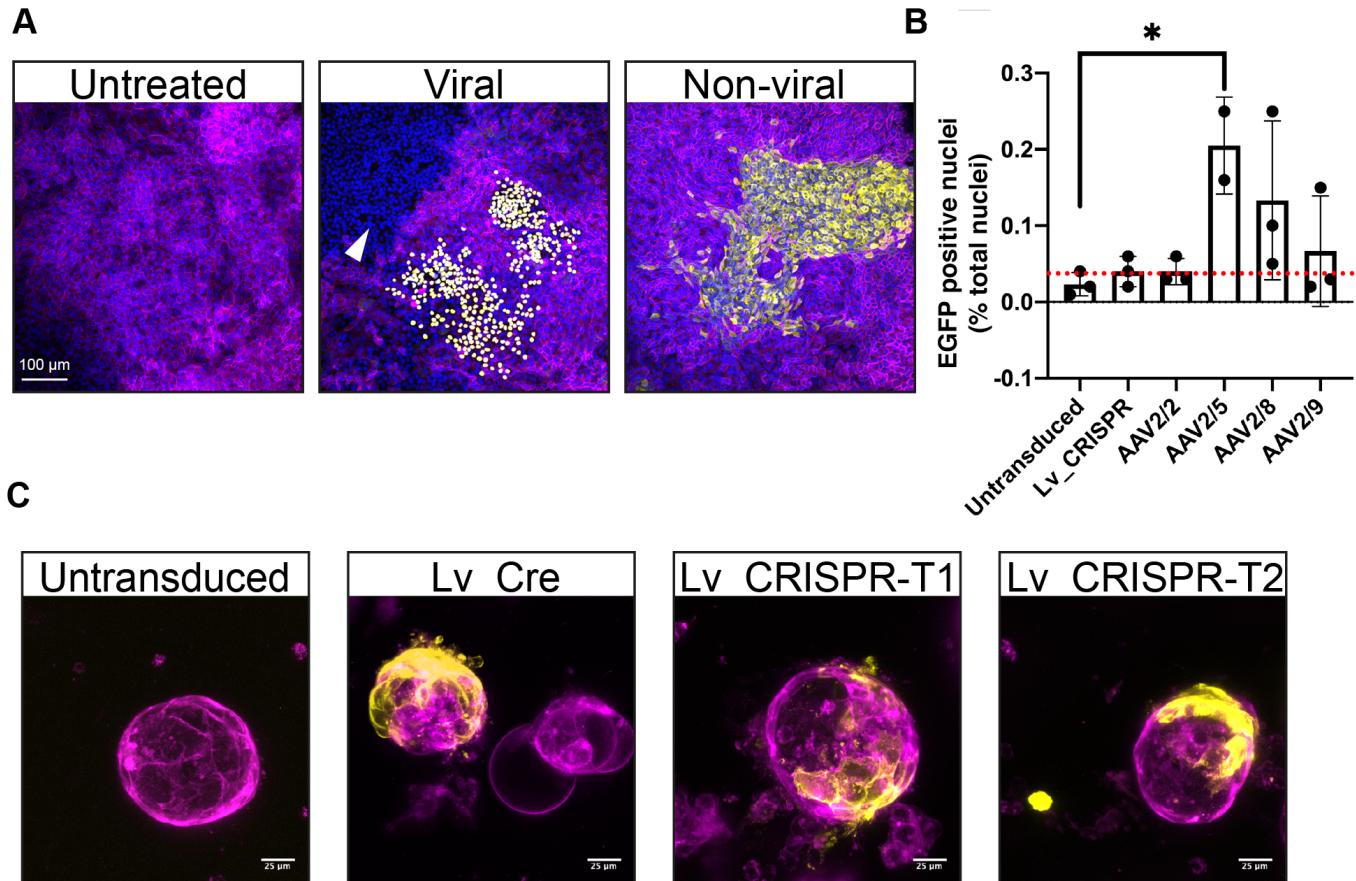


Figure 5. FIVER allows establishment of disease-relevant primary cultures and organoids. (A) Representative confocal images comparing viral and non-viral delivery to FIVER mTECs. Maximum intensity projections of z-stacks. For viral delivery, LV-CRISPR-T1 was combined with AAV2/5-HDR. For non-viral delivery, mTECs treated with lipid nanoparticles (DHDTMA:DOPE with peptide E) containing SpCas9/T1 RNPs and MC.HDR. NHEJ editing indicated by mEGFP fluorescence or loss of mtdTomato while HDR is illustrated by nEGFP. Arrowhead indicates tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁻ cells, also indicative of NHEJ editing. Nuclei are stained with DAPI. (B) Quantification of HDR editing in mTECs following viral transduction, $n > 20,000$ cells, $N = 3$ technical replicates, $* p = 0.0239$, one-way ANOVA with Dunnett's multiple comparisons. Red dashed line indicates background level of detection. (C) Example confocal images of editing in FIVER ductal liver organoids. Similar activities are observed between Cre- and SpCas9-gRNA-treated organoids. Maximum intensity projections of z-stacks.

Figure 5-Figure supplement 1. FIVER allows establishment of disease-relevant primary cultures and organoids

286 Highly efficient templated repair in FIVER early embryos

287 HDR is often more efficient in early embryos than in somatic cells (48,49). Thus, to demonstrate our
288 reporter in an optimal system, we investigated the amount and type of genome editing outcomes
289 in blastocysts following nuclear microinjection of FIVER single cell zygotes; we carried out pronu-
290 clear injections using SpCas9-RNPs and minicircle repair templates (MC.HDR or MC.HITI). Embryos
291 were cultured for 72 hours onto blastocyst stage where confocal imaging revealed high levels of
292 all editing events (**Figure 6A and B**).

293 In the majority of cases (88/110, 80%), blastocysts demonstrated editing in all cells using RNPs
294 (**Figure 6**). In a small subset (22/110, 20%), mosaic editing was observed (**Figure 6C**, arrowheads
295 and **Figure 6-video 1**), indicative of a delay in the initial editing event past the one cell stage. In
296 early embryos, the rates of HDR and HITI were similar, compared to asynchronous primary FIVER
297 fibroblasts cultures where HITI was 10-fold more efficient than HDR (**Figure 6B** versus **Figure 4B**
298 and **D**). This demonstrates that by using the same reagents in different cell types, FIVER can track
299 how different cell types differ in their predominant choice of repair mechanism.

300 Tracking genome editing events *in vivo* following hydrodynamic tail vein injection

301 The major advantage of our FIVER model is the ability to monitor *in vivo* editing spatially and tem-
302 porally in any tissue of interest. To capitalise on this, we delivered CRISPR based editing machinery
303 and repair constructs to adult mice via hydrodynamic tail vein injection (HTVI) using naked DNA
304 constructs (**Figure 7A**) (50). HTVI involves a rapid injection of a large volume into the animal caus-
305 ing a transient disruption of the microvascular barrier in the liver sinusoids such that DNA is rapidly
306 absorbed by hepatocytes. We inserted our editing machinery into a plasmid-based *Sleeping Beauty*
307 (SB) transposon vector (SB-CRISPR) which is able to efficiently integrate its transgene cargo into the
308 genome of targeted cells (51). The SB transposon utilizes a random integrative cut-and-paste trans-
309 position mechanism, where its integration site profile is not biased towards actively transcribing
310 genes unlike lentiviral vectors (52-54). Livers were harvested 1 week post injection and analysed
311 for evidence of editing using confocal microscopy.

312 By using different amounts of the SB-CRISPR-T1 plasmid, we demonstrate that there is a corre-
313 lation between the amount of the CRISPR machinery delivered and the level of editing observed
314 (**Figure 7B-C**). Editing is only observed when the SB10 transposase (55) is also present. Conse-
315 quently, we found that 20 µg of SB-CRISPR-T1 was optimal and this amount was used in all subse-
316 quent experiments.

317 In sham treated animals, there was no evidence of editing — all liver sections analysed retained
318 mtdTomato fluorescence (**Figure 7E**). In all SpCas9-gRNA treated cases, NHEJ editing was evident
319 throughout the postnatal livers — indicated by the switch from mtdTomato to mEGFP (**Figure 7D-E**). In addition, nEGFP expression was observed in animals that received HDR repair templates,
320 indicating that low levels of HDR had occurred (**Figure 7E**). Given that the bulk of adult hepatocytes
321 are post-mitotic, low levels of HDR are predicted, but injury from the HTVI could possibly trigger
322 cell cycle re-entry.

324 FIVER facilitates tracking the fate of edited cells *in vivo*

325 Another important application of genome editing has been to screen *in vivo* for genetic drivers of
326 tumorigenesis in mouse models (51). Given the complexity of delivering a library of gRNAs and
327 nucleases to many different cell types and tracking their fates over time, we postulated that FIVER
328 could aid in such screens by allowing lineage tracing of edited cells. Following co-delivery of a
329 library of genome-wide gRNAs along with T1 gRNA, we aimed to track edited tumours by a shift
330 in fluorescence. Hits which increased or decreased tumour pathology, marked by a change in
331 fluorescence, would be of interest for further study. This would enable isolation of mutant cells
332 prior to establishment of frank carcinoma and also allow for more in-depth analyses of tumour
333 progression, as opposed to current methods which examine loss of function mutations solely in
334 established tumours. We therefore co-delivered the SB-CRISPR-T1 and pCMV/SB10 plasmids with

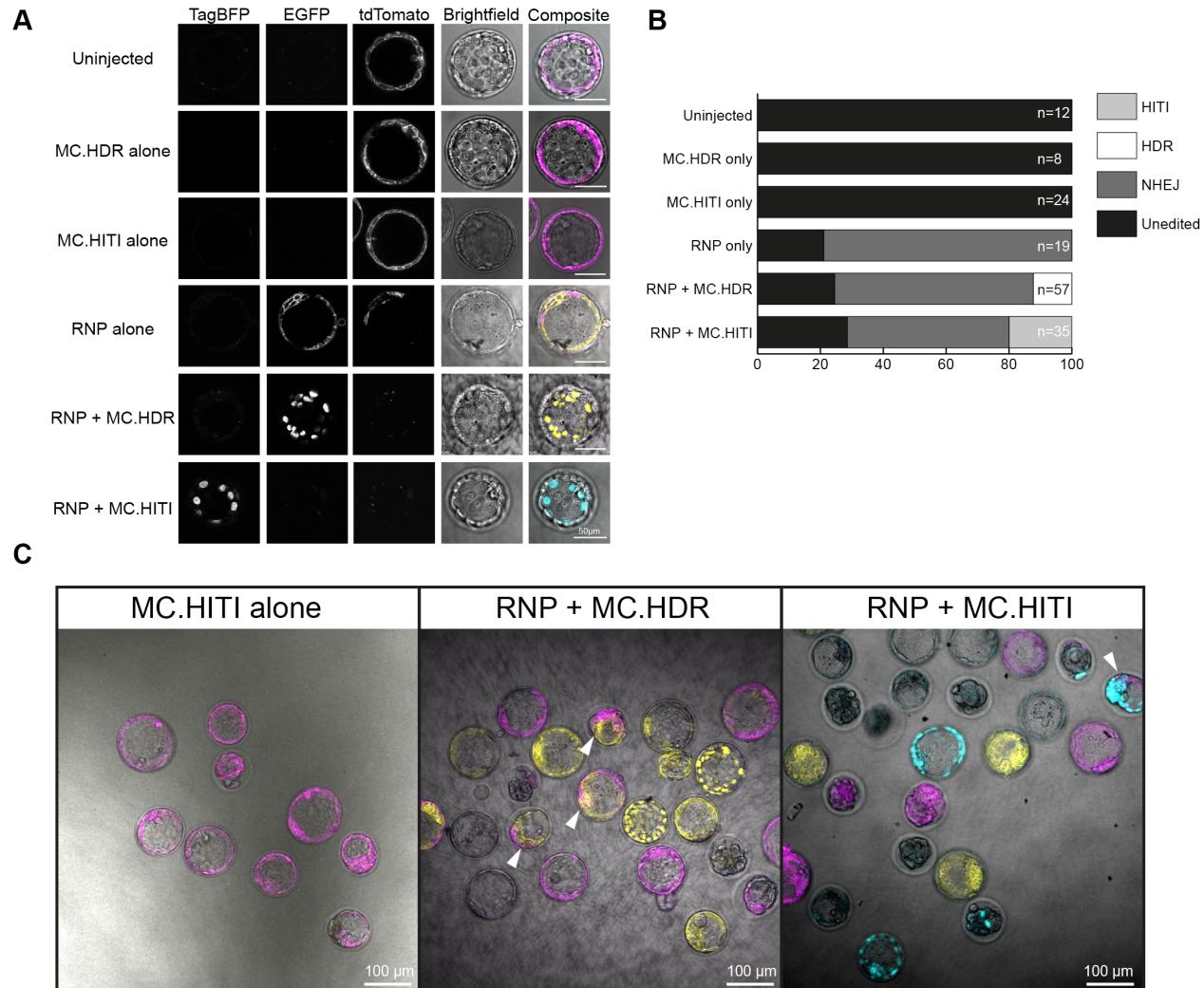


Figure 6. Highly efficient editing in FIVER early embryos. SpCas9-T1 RNP and minicircle repair constructs (MC.HDR or MC.HITI) were delivered to FIVER single cell zygotes by pronuclear injections. After progression to blastocysts (72 hours post single cell injection), they were analysed by confocal microscopy. (A) Representative confocal images indicating the ability of FIVER to demonstrate all editing outcomes. Scale bars represent 50 μ m. Single z-slices are presented. (B) Quantification of all editing outcomes. Total numbers of blastocysts in each group are indicated, from 2 rounds of injections. Blastocysts that arrested were discounted from analysis. (C) Representative confocal images of edited blastocysts indicating the range of editing outcomes observed. Arrowheads indicate mosaic editing events. Single z-slices. For full z-slice montage, see **Figure 6-video 1**.

Figure 6-video 1. Single slice montage of efficient editing in FIVER early embryos. Videos show full z-slice montage of confocal images through blastocysts, cultured 72 hours post single cell injection. Field of blastocysts following injection with (A) HITI only, (B) RNP only, (C) RNP + MC.HDR or (D) RNP + MC.HITI. Scale bar 100 μ m. See also **Figure 6**.

335 two drivers of tumorigenesis — *Notch1* receptor intracellular domain (NICD) and *Akt1* containing a
336 myristoylation sequence (myr-*Akt1*) (56), via HTVI (**Figure 7F**). After 6 weeks, livers were analysed
337 for evidence of tumours showing a shift in fluorescence.

338 In all cases, tumours were observed only when the oncogenes were provided (**Figure 7G**). When
339 analysed by confocal microscopy, tumours were shown to be either tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁺ or lacking in
340 all fluorescence (tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁻), both outcomes indicative of NHEJ editing (**Figure 7G**). Changes
341 in fluorescence upon editing will greatly aid in resecting tumour cells out from non-edited stroma
342 for clean genotyping and expression profiling.

343 **Efficient retinal editing following subretinal AAV administration**

344 Given its accessibility and compartmentalisation, the eye represents a leading target tissue for gene
345 therapies, including genome editing (57,58). To demonstrate the ability of FIVER to accelerate the
346 development of such therapeutic approaches, we carried out subretinal injections of AAV-based
347 CRISPR machinery in neonatal FIVER mice (**Figure 7H**).

348 Following injection, animals were allowed to recover for 14 days, then sacrificed and eyes anal-
349 ysed for editing. All mice treated with AAVs demonstrated retinal NHEJ editing — transition from
350 mtdTomato to mEGFP (treated, **Figure 7I**) — while sham injected animals retained mtdTomato
351 fluorescence throughout (sham, **Figure 7I**).

352 **Editing outcomes at the FIVER reporter locus faithfully reflect editing outcomes at 353 a second independent locus**

354 Visualisation of genome editing outcomes across tissues and whole organisms will help expedite
355 development of more efficient and better tolerated delivery systems for somatic genome editing
356 tools and more efficacious therapeutics. However, the question remains whether editing outcomes
357 at the FIVER locus — *Rosa26*, which is ubiquitously expressed in mouse — would be indicative of
358 what happens at a second locus of therapeutic interest, that may not be widely expressed. Chro-
359 matin accessibility and modifications have been reported to have variable effects on the efficacy
360 and type of editing outcomes (59–63). To address this, we crossed the FIVER mice with a preclin-
361 ical model of primary ciliary dyskinesia (PCD), harbouring a 7-bp deletion in the *Zmynd10* gene
362 (*Zmynd10*^{em1Pmi}) (64). From these mice, we generated *FIVER/Zmynd10*^{em1Pmi} MEFs which we trans-
363 fected with SpCas9-RNPs targeting both FIVER and *Zmynd10* with corresponding MC.HITI repair
364 constructs (**Figure 8B**).

365 Cells were sorted into three populations by FACS: tdTomato single positive (tdTomato⁺/EGFP⁻;
366 72.2%), TagBFP single positive (tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁻/TagBFP⁺; 3.1%), and the third population consist-
367 ing of all other fluorescent outcomes (tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁺, tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁻ and tdTomato⁺/EGFP⁺;
368 16.1%) (**Figure 8C**). In addition, a population treated with only *Zmynd10*-targeting SpCas9-RNP and
369 MC.HITI was included. While lower overall levels of editing were observed here — 16.1% total
370 edited cells and 3.1% TagBFP⁺ cells — versus previous experiments (**Figure 4C and D**), these cells
371 were supplied with a 50% lower concentration of editing reagents targeting FIVER and hence this
372 would be expected given the correlation between reagent dose and levels of editing (**Figure 7C**).
373 qPCR to detect integration of the HITI cassette at *Zmynd10* revealed a significant ($p = 0.006$, one-
374 way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparison) 10-fold enrichment of HITI editing at the *Zmynd10*
375 locus within the TagBFP single positive population when compared to all other populations (**Figure**
376 **8C**). These results suggest that FIVER should be a powerful, widely-applicable tool to track specific
377 editing outcomes at different loci in different cell populations *in vivo*.

378 **Discussion**

379 Here, we have developed and characterised a novel, multispectral fluorescent reporter of *in vivo*
380 genome editing — FIVER. We believe it to be the first of its kind to sensitively report editing out-
381 comes *in vitro* and *in vivo* for NHEJ, HDR and HITI editing outcomes. We confirm by deep sequencing

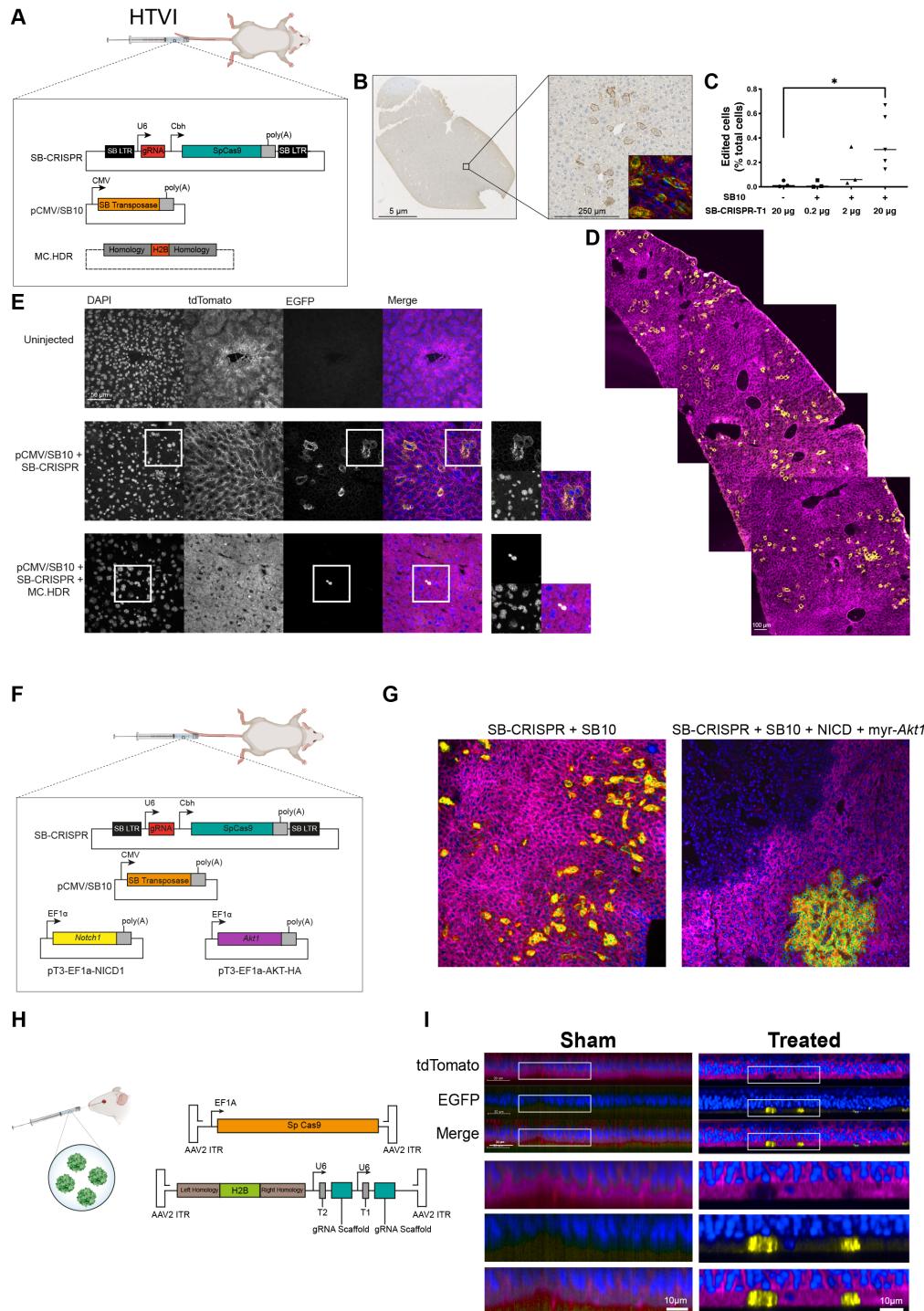


Figure 7. FIVER reports on *in vivo* editing in multiple organ systems. (A) Plasmid and minicircle constructs used for HTVI. (B) Wax sections of liver stained with anti-GFP antibodies, used to quantify overall levels of editing following administration of varying amounts of SB-CRISPR-T1. (C) Quantification of total editing (EGFP positive cells/ total cells). The presence of SB10 transposase significantly increases the level of editing with 20 μ g SB-CRISPR-T1. * $p = 0.0329$, one-way ANOVA with Dunnett's multiple comparisons. (D) Composite maximum intensity projection of a confocal image, illustrating widespread liver editing following HTVI. (E) Representative confocal images of liver sections from HTVI mice. Magnified sections indicate NHEJ (mEGFP) and HDR (nEGFP) editing outcomes. Maximum intensity projection of z-stacks. (F) Overview of constructs used in the FIVER liver tumour model. (G) Representative confocal images to show liver tumour development. Tumours display editing in the FIVER mice, by either gaining mEGFP or losing mttdTomato fluorescence. No tumours observed in control animals not injected with NICD and myr-Akt1. NICD = Notch1 intracellular domain, myr-Akt1 = myristoylated Akt1. Maximum intensity projection of z-stacks. (H) Overview of viral constructs delivered subretinally to FIVER mice. (I) Representative confocal microscopy of retinal wholemounts following subretinal delivery of AAV. Eyes harvested 14 days after injection into post-natal day 3 animals. Nuclei stained with DRAQ5 are indicated in blue.

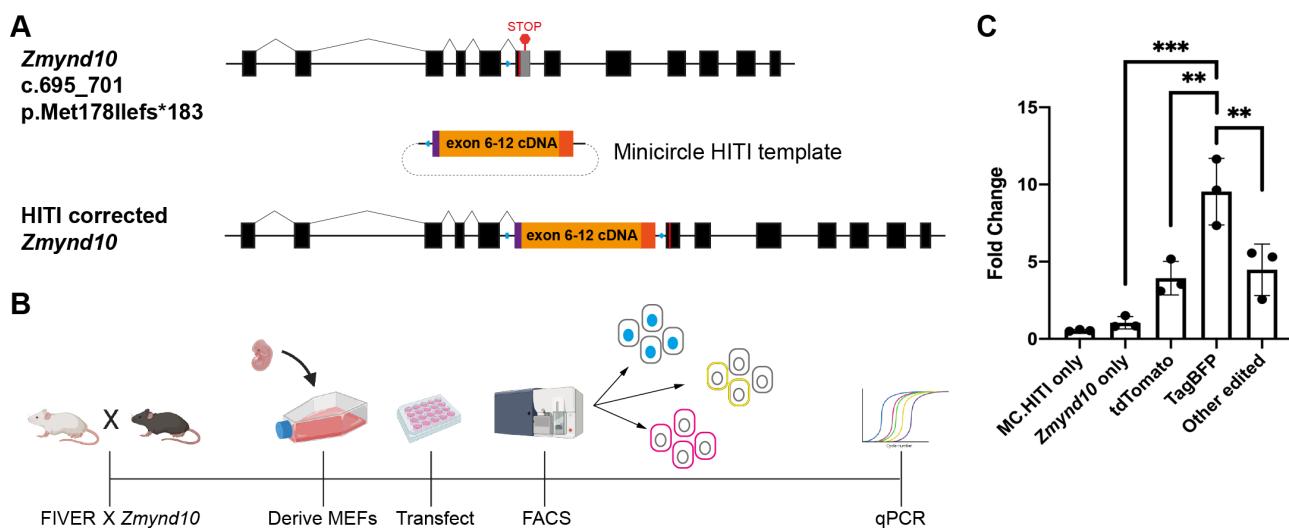


Figure 8. Editing outcomes at FIVER recapitulate editing at a second independent disease locus, the ciliopathy gene *Zmynd10*. (A) Overview of expected HITI editing outcome at *Zmynd10*. Blue polygon depicts gRNA target site in both the target locus and the repair construct. Upon correct integration the gRNA site is destroyed, leaving two remnant sites (blue rectangle and blue diamond), which can no longer be recognised by the gRNA. (B) Experimental workflow. (C) Overall HITI editing at *Zmynd10* locus in sorted or *Zmynd10*-targeted alone populations. One-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparisons, N = 3 technical replicates, ** $p = 0.0029$ (TagBFP vs. tdTomato) or $p = 0.006$ (TagBFP vs. Other edited), *** $p = 0.0001$.

382 that changes in fluorescence emission and/or localisation broadly and faithfully recapitulate underlying
 383 genomic changes. These changes at the genomic level result in rapid and biphasic changes in
 384 fluorescence, which are fully complete within 48 hours for all observed outcomes (**Figure 3**). We
 385 show that FIVER's fluorescent read-out quantifiably reflects changes at the DNA level in multiple
 386 primary cell types and complex tissues.

387 The field of genome editing is rapidly evolving with new and improved nuclease tools; a broader
 388 genomic range we can target with different PAM sites, improved specificity, and novel mechanisms
 389 of action and resolution of DNA breaks (65,66). FIVER can also be used with other genome editing
 390 platforms including TALENs (for a list of potential TALEN target sites see **Supplementary Table**
 391 1) and other Cas proteins, as long as they introduce DSBs. Different nucleases leave different
 392 ends at DSBs and how these are resolved may bias the outcomes. For example, Cas9 generates
 393 predominantly blunt ends, whilst Cas12a generates sticky ends (67,68); the latter are suggested to
 394 be more amenable to targeted knock-in strategies. The FIVER toolbox can be rapidly expanded to
 395 include novel nucleases to explore their efficiencies and the editing outcomes they elicit *in vivo*, as
 396 they are taken forward for preclinical use.

397 Using FIVER, we investigated a range of previously reported small molecule modulators of DSB
 398 repair. In our initial screen, only NU7441 significantly increased HDR (**Figure 4B**). In addition,
 399 we also observed a significant reduction in the number of TagBFP⁺ cells, confirming that HITI re-
 400 sults from NHEJ-mediated knock-in of the repair template (**Figure 4D**). Though counter-intuitive,
 401 NU7441 treatment also increased the level of overall editing, by increasing both tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁻
 402 and tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁺ populations (**Figure 4B and figure supplement 1A and B**). The increase
 403 in tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁺ could be accounted for to some extent by the concomitant increase in HDR
 404 (nEGFP). However, the tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁻ population is believed to result from imprecise NHEJ
 405 repair such that we would see a reduction of this population following inhibition of DNA-PKcs.
 406 As we observed in the NGS data, this population results from larger deletions following excision
 407 of the tdTomato cassette which extend into the promoter region or coding sequence of EGFP
 408 (**Figure 2-figure supplement 1B**). Mutations such as these may be the result of alt-NHEJ, specific-

409 cally microhomology-mediated end-joining (MMEJ), which is known to result in larger indels than
410 canonical NHEJ (69). Indeed, Schep et al. have recently demonstrated that inhibition of NHEJ using
411 NU7441 leads to an increase in the proportion of MMEJ-mediated repair (63), suggesting MMEJ may
412 similarly compensate for a reduction in NHEJ, consistent with our results. Inhibition of MMEJ with
413 mirin (70) had a similar, though less pronounced effect as NU7441 on both tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁺ and
414 tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁻ populations, but in combination with NU7441 it was cytotoxic (**Figure 4-figure**
415 **supplement 2**), suggesting inhibition of multiple DSB repair pathways is not tolerated. In addition,
416 our NGS data revealed asymmetry in editing between the two gRNA target sites, with more
417 indels present at the upstream site (**Figure 2B**). This implies that editing at the two near identical
418 sites could be asynchronous or that local sequence differences lead to more disruptive repair at
419 the upstream site. Taken together, these suggest that multiple repair pathways may be employed
420 following CRISPR activity and that blocking one or more merely shifts the balance between these
421 competing pathways.

422 We also investigated Nedisertib, reported to be a more potent inhibitor of DNA-PKcs (37). How-
423 ever, we found that Nedisertib was less efficacious than NU7441 at increasing HDR after 24 hours
424 of treatment, though was a more potent inhibitor of HITI (**Figure 4-figure supplement 1D and F**).
425 Considerable controversy still exists about how DSBs elicited by genome editors are resolved and
426 the molecular mechanisms involved. The majority of these small molecule studies have been done
427 in cancer cell lines, with replication studies in alternative cell lines failing to recapitulate findings
428 (65); it remains to be seen whether similar pathways are employed in primary cells. Whether cell
429 type specific differences exist in regulators of these pathways also remains unclear. Being able to
430 control or bias editing outcomes with small molecule modulators is attractive. FIVER would be a
431 powerful way of verifying efficacy and toxicity of known drugs in target cells of interest, as well as
432 offering the opportunity to screen for novel candidates in an automated fashion, taking advantage
433 of fluorescent shifts and localisations. As part of the FIVER toolkit, we have developed automated
434 quantification scripts in QuPath (open source) to aid with these types of applications; these are
435 available on GitHub (<https://tinyurl.com/ycbcoopk>). In addition, FIVER allows testing in other relevant
436 cells, tissues and ultimately *in vivo*.

437 One of the major applications for FIVER will be in optimising delivery of genome editing tools
438 to different cell and tissue types *in vivo*. In contrast to gene augmentation studies, high level, pro-
439 longed expression of genome editing tools is likely not desirable in therapeutic settings. A short,
440 but widespread, burst of editing activity is likely ideal to avoid off-target effects such that editing
441 can be biased towards the desired outcomes. Preclinical studies to explore how best to balance
442 efficacy (i.e., efficient editing) and safety (i.e., high on-target, non-integrating activity) are needed.
443 Using FIVER, we were able to demonstrate that even identical gRNA and Cas9 nuclease complexes
444 elicited very different outcomes in our airway organotypic cultures; with AAV-delivered HDR re-
445 pair effecting robust editing and greater HDR compared to nanoparticle delivery at a proliferative
446 stage (**Figure 5A and figure supplement 1A and B**). However, these nanoparticle reagents were
447 optimised for targeting mature airway epithelium (40), where the bulk of cells would be differen-
448 tiated and likely less amenable to HDR. FIVER will be a powerful tool to unbiasedly isolate edited
449 cell populations following *in vivo* editing by imaging or FACS-based methods. This will allow re-
450 searchers to determine which cell types have been edited, quantify at what levels and determine
451 their distribution within the tissue (i.e., proximal to distal in the airways), plus their biodistribution
452 in the organism. FIVER will also allow us to address important questions such as the extent to
453 which edited cells undergo clonal expansion and how long edited cells remain in the tissue, during
454 health and in disease models.

455 Crucially, we were able to demonstrate HITI editing outcomes at a second independent locus
456 of clinical interest (**Figure 8C**). HITI editing has great potential as a therapeutic approach in many
457 genetic diseases. Achieving therapeutic levels of perfect repair by HDR is still a substantial hurdle
458 for the development of genome editing-based therapeutics. However, as HITI takes advantage of
459 the more prevalent NHEJ pathway, it can help to bridge the gap between the precise editing of

460 HDR and the variable indels generated by NHEJ, resulting in a more predictable, targeted repair
461 which occurs more efficiently than HDR strategies. HITI is also a more realistic repair strategy in
462 non-proliferative cell types. Indeed, in their study, Suzuki et al. were able to demonstrate potential
463 therapeutic benefit of HITI by restoration of the *Mertk* gene in a rat model of retinitis pigmentosa
464 (19). HITI-targeted animals showed greater improvements in retinal morphology and in both rod
465 and cone function compared to HDR-targeted animals. More recently, others have shown the po-
466 tential of HITI for use with other Cas proteins; an AAV based HITI strategy making use of SaCas9
467 was shown to restore FIX serum levels to a greater extent than the equivalent HDR strategy in a
468 mouse model of haemophilia (71). Furthermore, HITI can be used to aid in gene augmentation
469 therapies — targeting genes to safe harbour loci for sustained expression without the risk of inser-
470 tional mutagenesis (72). The ability of FIVER to report HITI editing will be beneficial in developing
471 new and improved HITI-based therapeutics.

472 There are currently several fluorescence-based editing reporters available, however the major-
473 ity of these are limited to *in vitro* use (10–14,16,17). While a few *in vivo* editing reporters have also
474 been described, these are limited to reporting on NHEJ outcomes (73,74). Whilst this work was in
475 preparation, Alapati et al. reported using the *mTmG* reporter to monitor NHEJ editing outcomes —
476 solely *in utero* — with adenovirus delivery for a rare genetic lung disease (15). We believe repur-
477 posing this readily available fluorescent reporter system for genome editing with the robust FIVER
478 toolbox to report on NHEJ, HDR and HITI outcomes *in vivo* creates a valuable community resource
479 which will expedite effective genome therapies. In addition, the availability of well-established
480 preclinical mouse models of human disease enables rapid introduction of the reporter into phys-
481iologically or pathologically relevant animals. As such, FIVER has the potential to accelerate the
482 development of effective genome surgery across a broader spectrum of genetic diseases.

483 FIVER will allow vectors, vehicles and small molecule modulators to be tested by independent
484 labs, and evolving methods and reagents that improve outcomes following ‘genome surgery’ can
485 be shared for everyone’s benefit.

486 Methods and Materials

487 Plasmids

488 The following plasmids were a gift from Feng Zhang: pX330, (Addgene plasmid #42230; <http://n2t.net/addgene:42230>; RRID: Addgene_42230); pLentiCRISPRv2, (Addgene plasmid #52961; <http://n2t.net/addgene:52961>; RRID: Addgene_52961) and pAsCpf1(TYCV)(BB) (pY211), (Addgene plasmid #89-
489 352; <http://n2t.net/addgene:89352>; RRID: Addgene_89352). The piRFP670-N1 plasmid was a gift
490 from Vladislav Verkhusha (Addgene plasmid #45457; <http://n2t.net/addgene:45457>; RRID: Add-
491 gene_45457). The SB-CRISPR plasmid was a gift from Ronald Rad. The pCMV/SB10 plasmid was a
492 gift from Perry Hackett (Addgene plasmid #2455; <http://n2t.net/addgene:24551>; RRID: Addgene_24-
493 551). Both pT3-myR-AKT-HA (Addgene plasmid #31789; <http://n2t.net/addgene:31789>; RRID: Add-
494 gene_31789) and pT3-EF1a-NICD1 (Addgene plasmid #46047; <http://n2t.net/addgene:46047>; RRID:
495 Addgene_46047) were gifts from Xin Chen. Oligonucleotides containing the gRNA sequences were
496 synthesised by Sigma-Aldrich (USA) (Table 2) and cloned into pX330, SB-CRISPR or pAsCpf1(TYCV)(BB)
497 (pY211) following digestion with BbsI restriction endonuclease. pLentiCRISPRv2 was engineered to
498 contain the iRFP670 fluorescent protein downstream of Cas9 using a self-cleaving peptide motif
499 (P2A). The same gRNAs were cloned into pLentiCRISPRv2-iRFP670 following digestion with BsmBI.
500 All gRNA sequences are detailed in **Table 1**.

503 Viral vectors

504 AAV vectors were produced by Virovek (USA). Lentiviral vectors, all coated with VSV-G, were pro-
505 duced by the Viral Vectors Core at the Shared University Research Facilities, the University of Edin-
506 burgh (Edinburgh, UK).

Table 1. gRNA Sequences. Target sequences are given in black, with PAMs given in red.

Name	Sequence(5'-3')
T1	GTATGCTATA CGAAGTTATT AGG
T2	CGAAGTTATTA AGGGTTC CGG
Z3	AGCATT CACCC TGCCTGTGG AGG
T3	TCCG GAACCCTTAATATAACTTCG

507 Minicircle DNA vectors

508 Production of minicircle vectors was carried out by PlasmidFactory (Germany). Sequences are
509 listed in **Supplementary sequences**.

510 Cell culture

511 Mouse embryonic fibroblasts (MEFs) were derived from embryonic day 11.5 to 13.5 (E11.5 - E13.5)
512 FIVER embryos. Cells were cultured in Opti-MEM supplemented with 10% v/v foetal calf serum
513 and 1% v/v penicillin/streptomycin, at 37°C, 5% CO₂ in a humidified incubator. For immortalisation,
514 these were transfected with a plasmid containing SV40 large T antigen and selected for using
515 puromycin (3 µg/mL).

516 Mouse tracheal epithelial cells (mTECs) were derived from tracheas of 5-7 week old FIVER mice.
517 Basal cell populations were first expanded in KSF media (Gibco, USA) supplemented with 1% v/v
518 penicillin/streptomycin, 0.025 µg/mL murine epidermal growth factor (Scientific Laboratory Sup-
519 plies, UK), 0.03 mg/mL bovine pituitary extract (Gibco, USA), 1 µM isoproterenol (Sigma-Aldrich,
520 USA), 10 µM Y-27632 (StemCell Technologies, UK) and 5 µM DAPT (Sigma-Aldrich, USA). Cells were
521 then cultured on semipermeable supported membranes (Transwell; Costar, USA), as previously
522 described (75). 10 µM Y-27632 (StemCell Technologies, UK) was added to the medium during the
523 proliferation stage to promote basal cell proliferation.

524 Organoid culture

525 Hepatic organoids were generated from isolated bile ducts. Briefly, isolated bile ducts from out-
526 bred adult FIVER mice were resuspended in 100% GFR Matrigel, plated in base media consisting
527 of DMEM/F-12 supplemented with Glutamax, Penicillin/Streptomycin, Fungizone and HEPES (Ther-
528 moFisher Scientific, USA). These were allowed to expand at 37°C, 5% CO₂ in a humidified incubator.
529 Following expansion, ducts were removed from Matrigel by incubating with ice-cold Versene and
530 dissociated with pipetting, before re-plating in fresh 100% Matrigel. This process was repeated to
531 expand organoids. Just prior to feeding, the base media was supplemented with HGF, EGF, FGF10,
532 Gastrin, Nicotinamide, N-Acetylcystine, B-27, Forskolin, Y-27632 (StemCell Technologies, UK), A83-
533 01 (TGF-β inhibitor) and Chir99021 (GSK3β inhibitor).

534 Transfections and Transductions

535 All nucleofections were carried out using the Neon transfection system (ThermoFisher Scientific,
536 USA). For small scale plasmid transfections, 10 µL tips were used. A total of 1 µg DNA and 0.5
537 x10⁵ cells were transfected per tip using 1350V, 30ms and a single pulse. For large scale plasmid
538 transfections, 100 µL tips were used with 10 µg DNA and 1 x10⁶ cells per tip. Transfection using
539 RNPs were carried out using the same Neon conditions, using a total of 1 µg of Cas9 protein (Ther-
540 moFisher Scientific, USA) per 0.5 x10⁵ cells.

541 Ribonucleoprotein complexes (RNPs) were generated using GeneArt Platinum Cas9 nuclease
542 (ThermoFisher Scientific, USA) and in vitro transcribed gRNA in a ratio of 1 µg Cas9:240 ng gRNA.
543 Complexes were allowed to form at room temperature for 5-10 min prior to use. gRNA was pro-
544 duced using the GeneArt Precision gRNA synthesis kit (ThermoFisher Scientific, USA), according to
545 the manufacturer's instructions.

Table 2. Peptides used for lipid nanoparticle formulation. Peptides E and Y are epithelial targeting peptides (40) and ME27 is an RGD-containing integrin-targeting peptide.

Peptide	Sequence
E	K ₁₆ GACSERSMNFCG
ME27	K ₁₆ RVRRGACRGDCLG
Y	K ₁₆ GACYGLPHKFCG

546 For lipid nanoparticle-based transfections, nanoparticles were generated using a weight ratio
547 of 1:1:4 (Cargo:Lipid:Peptide, where cargo is RNP complexes with or without MC.HDR). The
548 lipid component was either 2,3-dioleyloxypropyl-1-trimethyl ammonium chloride (DOTMA) or 1-
549 propanaminium, N,N,N-trimethyl-2,3-bis (11Z-hexadecenyoxy)-iodide (DHDTMA), mixed 1:1 in a
550 molar ratio with the neutral lipid dioleoyl L- α -phosphatidylethanolamine (DOPE) (39). The pep-
551 tides used are listed in **Table 2**. Complexes were allowed to form for 30 min at room temperature,
552 diluted in OptiMEM and applied to cells. Plates were centrifuged at 1500g for 5 min. Cells were
553 incubated at 37°C, 5% CO₂ in a humidified incubator for 4 hours before complexes were removed
554 and fresh media applied.

555 For viral transduction of mTECs, 10 μ L of each virus was diluted in growth media containing
556 polybrene (10 μ g/mL; Sigma-Aldrich, USA) then mixed with cells, incubated at room temperature
557 for 10 min then plated onto transwell membranes as described above. Lentivirus was added at 1.5
558 $\times 10^{11}$ TU/mL and AAVs were used at 1 $\times 10^{13}$ vg/mL. For transduction of hepatic organoids, lentivirus
559 was diluted in base media containing polybrene (10 μ g/mL; Sigma-Aldrich, USA) and added directly
560 to organoid cultures.

561 Small molecule treatments

562 The following small molecule modulators of genome editing outcome were used in this study:
563 Brefeldin A, L-755,507, NU7441, M3814 (Nedisertib), RS-1 and mirin (B012-5mg, 18629-5 mg-CAY,
564 14881-5 mg-CAY, HY-101570-10mg, B1118-5 and 13208-5 mg-CAY, respectively; Cambridge Bio-
565 Science, UK), and SCR7 (M60082-2s, XcessBio, USA). All were reconstituted in DMSO. For use in
566 tissue culture, each drug was diluted to a final working concentration (as indicated) alongside a
567 DMSO only control and added to cells immediately after transfection for a period of 24 hours.

568 Fluorescence activated cell sorting

569 Cells were detached using TrypLE Express reagent (ThermoFisher Scientific, USA), pelleted by cen-
570 trifugation and resuspended in PBS. For analysis, a BD LSRII was employed, for sorting,
571 either a BD FACSJazz or BD FACSAria were used (all BD Biosciences, USA). For EGFP an excitation
572 filter of 488/50 was used with an emission filter of 525/50 (488-525/50). For tdTomato, 561-610/20,
573 561-586/15 or 561-582/15 were used depending on the machine. For TagBFP 405-450/50 was used.
574 For analysis, a total of 50-100,000 cells were used.

575 Sequencing

576 DNA was extracted from cells using the DNeasy Blood and Tissue Kit (QIAGEN), according to man-
577 ufacturer's instructions. For NGS, the primers are listed in **Table 3**. Sample preparation and se-
578 quencing was carried out by Edinburgh Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Facility (WTCRF). Briefly,
579 amplicons were quantified using a Qubit dsDNA HS kit or BR assay (Ion Torrent and MinION,
580 respectively; ThermoFisher Scientific, USA). For Ion Torrent, these were sheared using a Covaris E220
581 Evolution Focused Ultrasonicator (ThermoFisher Scientific, USA), quantified and barcoded. The li-
582 brary was then amplified (10 cycles) and size selected using AMPure XP beads (Beckman Coulter,
583 California, US) for fragments approximately 300bp in length, checked for purity, quantified, and an
584 equimolar stock was prepared and sequenced.

585 For MinION, 50 ng of each amplicon was end-repaired and adenylated using an NEBNext Ultra
586 End Repair/dA-Tailing Module kit (NEB, USA) and purified using AMPure XP beads (Beckman Coul-

587 ter, USA). Barcode adapters from the PCR Barcoding Kit 96 (Oxford Nanopore Technologies, UK)
588 were ligated to the end-repaired, dA-tailed DNA during 18 cycles of PCR. Excess barcode adapters
589 were removed using AMPure XP beads, and barcoded DNA was quantified using a Qubit dsDNA HS
590 assay (ThermoFisher Scientific, USA). Equal quantities of each barcoded amplicon were pooled be-
591 fore being end-repaired and adenylated to allow ligation of sequencing adapters and tethers from
592 the Nanopore 1D2 Sequencing Kit (Oxford Nanopore Technologies, UK). Libraries were re-purified
593 and an equimolar stock was prepared and sequenced.

594 For targeted sequencing of HDR samples, PCR amplification of the whole locus was carried out
595 using the following primers: FIVER F4 and FIVER R3 (**Table 3**). Products were purified using the
596 PureLink quick PCR purification kit (ThermoFisher Scientific, USA) according to the manufacturer's
597 instructions. 4 µL of purified product was cloned into the pCR-4 Blunt TOPO vector using the Zero
598 Blunt TOPO PCR Cloning Kit for Sequencing (ThermoFisher Scientific, USA). To identify larger dele-
599 tions in the promoter region, PCR amplifications using P7 and P8 or P7 and P9 primers was carried
600 out (**Table 3**). Products were purified using the PureLink quick PCR purification kit (ThermoFisher
601 Scientific, USA) according to the manufacturer's instructions. 4 µL of purified product was cloned
602 into the pCR-4TOPO vector using the TOPO TA Cloning Kit for Sequencing (ThermoFisher Scientific,
603 USA). In both cases, colonies were selected and grown overnight at 37°C, 300 rpm in 96-well plate
604 cultures in LB containing 100 µg/mL ampicillin. DNA extraction and sequencing were performed by
605 the IGMM technical services department on an Applied Biosystems 3130 (4-capillary) Genetic Ana-
606 lyzer or a 48-capillary 3730 DNA Analyzer (Both ThermoFisher Scientific, USA). Sequencing primers
607 are listed in **Table 3**.

608 Sequence analysis pipelines

609 **Ion Torrent script.** The fastq output file was used to align reads to the custom reference se-
610 quences, using Bowtie 2 (76). Quality control metrics were provided by BamQC (Simon Andrews,
611 <https://github.com/s-andrews/BamQC>). Following this, samtools (77), bam-readcount ([https://git-
hub.com/genome/bam-readcount](https://git-
612 hub.com/genome/bam-readcount)) and the Genome Analysis Toolkit (78) packages are used to gen-
613 erate alignment statistics. Two different variant callers were used for comparison, VarScan 2 (79)
614 and the Bcftools package by samtools. Bowtie 2 alignments were visualised using the Integrative
615 Genomics Viewer (80,81).

616 **MinION script.** This was derived from the Ion Torrent script and is largely the same except
617 that GraphMap (82) is used to align reads and that the following alignments are 'cleaned up' using
618 Picard Tools (<http://broadinstitute.github.io/picard>). GraphMap contains a dedicated algorithm for
619 aligning Oxford Nanopore data. Prior to running the MinION script, the .fast5 output was converted
620 to .fastq using Poretools (83), and then processed using Porechop ([https://github.com/rrwick/Pore-
622 chop](https://github.com/rrwick/Pore-
621 chop)) to split the file by barcode. A BBMap script, readlength.sh ([https://github.com/BioInfoTools/BB-
624 Map](https://github.com/BioInfoTools/BB-
623 Map)), was used to generate read length histograms and calculate mean/median read lengths.

625 For *de novo* genome assembly, Canu (84) was used to assemble MinION data. Settings were
626 tailored to expect a small, repetitive genome. SnapGene software (from GSL Biotech; available at
627 snapgene.com) was used to visualise the resulting genome assemblies.

628 Quantitative polymerase chain reaction (qPCR)

629 Genomic DNA from sorted populations was subjected to qPCR. Primers used are listed in **Table 3**.
630 Reactions were performed with PrecisionTM 2X qPCR master mix (Primerdesign) in 10 µL volumes
631 using the LightCycler® 480 System (Roche) according to the manufacturer's instructions. The Ct
632 values were acquired and normalised to the reference gene (*Zmynd10* exon 1) controls. The fold
633 changes were calculated using $2^{-\Delta\Delta CT}$ relative quantification method.

634 Animals

635 *Gt(ROSA)26Sor^{tm4(ACTB-tdTomato,-EGFP)Luo}J* (referred to here in the heterozygous state as FIVER) were
636 obtained from Jackson Labs (<https://www.jax.org/strain/007576>(18)). *Zmynd10*^{em1Pmi} mice were pre-

Table 3. Oligonucleotide sequences

Name	Sequence(5'-3')	Description
T1 Top	[Phos]CACCGTATGCTATACGAAGTTATT	
T1 Bottom	[Phos]AAACAATAACTCGTATAGCATACTAC	Oligos for cloning gRNAs into expression vectors eg. pX330
T2 Top	[Phos]CACCGCGAAGTTATTAAGGGTTC	
T2 Bottom	[Phos]AAACGAACCCTTAATATAACTTCGC	
T3 Top	[Phos] AGATATGTATGCTATACGAAGTTA	
T3 Bottom	[Phos] AAAATAACTTCGTATAGCATACTAC	
T1 F1	TAATACGACTCACTATAGGTATGCTATACGAAGT	
T1 R1	TTCTAGCTCTAAAACAATAACTTCGTATAGCATA	
T2 F1	TAATACGACTCACTATAGCGAAGTTATTAAGG	
T2 R1	TTCTAGCTCTAACAGAACCCCTTAATATAACTTC	
Z3 F1	TAATACGACTCACTATAGAGCATTACCCCTGCCT	
Z3 R1	TTCTAGCTCTAACACCCACAGGCAGGGTGAATGC	
FIVER P1	ACGTGCTGGTTATTGGCTG	
FIVER P2	TACCTTCACGTGCCATTCT	
FIVER P3	CTTGGGCTGCAGGTCGAG	
FIVER P4	GTCTTGAGTTGCCGTCGTC	
FIVER P5	CCATGTTGTTGCTCTGGAG	NGS primers for FIVER region
FIVER P6	TGATGAATGGGAGCAGTGGT	
FIVER F4	CCCTCGACACTAGTGAACCT	
FIVER R3	AGGGGAGGAGTAGAAGGTGG	
FIVER P7	CCTCCCCGAGTTGCTGAG	
FIVER P8	CTTGGAGCCGTACATGAAC	
FIVER P9	GGTGCAGATGAACCTCAGGG	PCR primers used for TOPO cloning
Zmynd10 HIT1 F	CTAGTAGACTATTGCCACCGC	
Zmynd10 HIT1 R	ACCTGGTTGTATGGAGGAG	Zmynd10 qPCR primers
Zmynd10 ex 1 F	CAAGTCCCCTCGTTCCATG	
Zmynd10 ex 1 R	TCCTTGGTTTGGGAAGCA	
T7	TAATACGACTCACTATAGGG	
T3	GCAATTAAACCCTCACTAAAGG	Sequencing primers for TOPO clones
M13 Forward	GTAAAACGACGGCCAG	
M13 Reverse	CAGGAAACAGCTATGAC	

635 viously generated using CRISPR/Cas9 (64). Animals were maintained in an SPF environment and
636 studies carried out in accordance with guidelines issued by the Medical Research Council in 'Re-
637 sponsibility in the Use of Animals in Medical Research' (July 1993) and licensed by the Home Office
638 under the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 under project license PPL P18921CDE in facili-
639 ties at the University of Edinburgh (PEL 60/2605).

640 **Hydrodynamic tail vein injection**

641 For NHEJ editing alone, 0.2, 2 or 20 μ g of SB-CRISPR-T1 plasmids were hydrodynamically co-injected
642 (in 10% w/v physiological saline in <10s) into adult FIVER mice via the lateral tail vein with 6 μ g of
643 pCMV/SB10. Mice were culled after 7 days.

644 For HDR editing, adult FIVER mice were given 6 μ g pCMV/SB10, 20 μ g SB-CRISPR-T1 and 20 μ g
645 MC.HDR or MC.HITI. The following groups were used: N = 4 non-injected control; N = 4 SB10/CRISPR-
646 T1 (NHEJ group); N = 3 SB10/CRISPR-T1/MC.HITI (HITI group); N = 4 SB10/CRISPR-T1/MC.HDR (HDR
647 group). Animals were sacrificed after 7 days.

648 For the cancer models, adult FIVER mice were given 20 μ g of SB-CRISPR-T1 and 6 μ g pCMV/SB10,
649 with or without 4 μ g of pT3-myr-AKT and 20 μ g pT3-NICD. N = 3 treated and N = 3 control. Animals
650 were culled after six weeks.

651 **Subretinal injections**

652 P3 FIVER animals were anaesthetised by inhalational anaesthesia (2.5% Isoflurane). Eyes were
653 opened by cutting the fused junctional epithelium at the point where the eyelids meet. Eyes were
654 dilated using 1% Tropicamide eye drops (Bausch & Lomb). For optimal retinal view, carbomer gel
655 was administered to the corneal surface and a 0.5 mm round coverslip placed on top. A Zeiss
656 OPMI Lumera operating microscope was used for all procedures. Eyes were immobilised by placing
657 traction on the rectus muscles and sclera punctured at 45° to the eye using a 34G needle (point
658 style 12, 207434) on a 5 μ L Hamilton syringe (75RN, 7634-01). Needle was tunnelled subretinally
659 towards the optic nerve prior to administration of 1.5 μ L of viral construct (1x10⁸ vg, diluted in PBS)
660 to the subretinal space. Contralateral eyes were sham injected with 1.5 μ L PBS to the sub retinal
661 space as controls. Mice were sacrificed after 14 days for analysis. A 1:1:1 preparation of AAV2/5-
662 SpCas9, AAV2/5-HDR-T1/T2 and AAV2/5-HITI was used for all experiments. Sham PBS injections
663 were used as a control.

664 **Zygote injections**

665 RNP complexes (100 ng/L Cas9 with 25 ng/ μ L gRNA) with or without minicircle repair constructs
666 (10 ng/ μ L) were prepared in 0.1 TE buffer (10mM Tris-HCl, 0.1mM EDTA, pH8) and injected into
667 fertilised outcrossed FIVER eggs via pronuclear injection and cultured for 72 hours to blastocyst
668 stage prior to imaging.

669 **Cytology and histology**

670 Animals were sacrificed 1 week post hydrodynamic tail vein injection. Livers were flushed with
671 PBS via injection into the hepatic portal vein, then harvested and snap frozen in optimal cutting
672 temperature compound (OCT), or fixed in 4% PFA overnight at 4°C. Following fixation, livers were
673 incubated successively in 70% v/v, 80% v/v, 90% v/v and 100% v/v ethanol, twice in xylene and then
674 paraffin, each for 20 min per stage with pressure, using a vacuum infiltration processor.

675 DAB staining was performed on 5 μ m paraffin liver sections. Anti-GFP (sc-8334; SantaCruz),
676 and DSB-X biotin goat anti-chicken (D-20701; ThermoFisher Scientific, USA) antibodies were used
677 at 1:500 and 1:2000 respectively.

678 OCT embedded livers were sectioned using a freezing microtome at 8 μ m. Sections were post
679 fixed in 100% ethanol, washed in PBS, stained for nuclei in a 1:2500 solution of DAPI (in PBS), rinsed
680 again in PBS and mounted using ProLong Gold antifade mounting medium (ThermoFisher Scien-
681 tific, USA).

682 Eyes were enucleated and fixed in 4% PFA for one hour. Keratectomy and lensectomy were
683 performed, followed by retinal dissection. Wholemount petaloid explants were prepared and ex-
684 plated on slides, photoreceptor side up. Retinas were incubated in 1:1000 DRAQ5 (ThermoFisher
685 Scientific, USA) for 5 min prior to mounting in Prolong Gold antifade mounting medium (Ther-
686 moFisher Scientific, USA).

687 MEFs were fixed on 6-well glass bottom dishes with 4% PFA (diluted from 16% stock in PBS;
688 ThermoFisher Scientific, Massachusetts, US), washed with PBS, then maintained in PBS. Nuclei were
689 stained using NucBlue Live ReadyProbes Reagent (ThermoFisher Scientific, USA). Cells were imaged
690 using an automated pipeline (Points on a Plate PFS Surface.bin; <https://tinyurl.com/yasbdqtb>) us-
691 ing the NIS-Elements JOBS module on a Nikon widefield microscope (Nikon Instruments Europe,
692 Netherlands).

693 mTECs were fixed on transwell membranes with 4% PFA (diluted from 16% stock in PBS; Ther-
694 moFisher Scientific, USA), then washed with PBS. Nuclei were stained with 1:2500 solution of DAPI
695 (in PBS), rinsed again in PBS and mounted using ProLong Gold antifade mounting medium (Ther-
696 moFisher Scientific, USA).

697 Imaging and image analysis

698 Fluorescent confocal images were acquired using a CFI Plan Fluor 10x 0.3NA, CFI Plan Apo VC 20x
699 0.75NA or CFI Plan Fluor 40x 0.75NA lens on a Nikon A1+ confocal microscope. Data were acquired
700 using NIS-Elements AR software (Nikon Instruments Europe, Netherlands). For nuclei counting,
701 widefield images were acquired using a CFI Plan Apo VC 20x 0.75NA lens on a Nikon Eclipse Ti
702 microscope using NIS-Elements JOBS module in NIS-Elements AR software (Nikon Instruments Eu-
703 rope, Netherlands).

704 Retinal wholemounts were imaged using a CFI Plan Fluor 40x 0.75NA, CFI Apo Lambda S 60x
705 1.4NA or CFI Plan Apo 100x 1.4NA lens on an Andor Dragonfly spinning disc microscope (Oxford In-
706 struments, UK). Data were acquired using Fusion software (Oxford Instruments, UK) and analysed
707 using Imaris software (Oxford Instruments, UK).

708 DAB stained slides were imaged on a NanoZoomer XR slide scanner (Hamamatsu, Japan).

709 Time lapse analysis was carried out using FIJI (85) (version 2.0.0-rc-54/1.51h). Cells were tracked
710 using the manual tracking plugin (Fabrice Cordelières, Institut Curie, Orsay, France), then mean
711 fluorescent intensity was calculated for each time point using an automated macro.

712 Automated nuclei counting was carried out using a pipeline developed in QuPath (version 0.2.0-
713 m4) (86). Total nuclei number was determined based on Hoechst staining (NucBlue Live Ready
714 Probes Reagent; ThermoFisher Scientific, USA) using the watershed cell detection function in QuPath.
715 The cell expansion parameter of this function was set to 1 μm to create a "ring" around the nu-
716 cleus, in order to sample the cytoplasm. A script was used to create a new measurement of the
717 ratio of mean intensity of EGFP signal in the "ring" compared to that of the nucleus. This ratio
718 measurement was used to classify all cells as having undergone HDR or not due to cells with a
719 higher ratio having much higher mean EGFP intensity in the nucleus than cytoplasm. Cells with
720 a ratio closer to one had either high or low mean intensity EGFP in both the nucleus and cyto-
721 plasm, more indicative of NHEJ or no editing (Classify_Ratio_Nucleus_Band_MEFs.groovy and Clas-
722 sify_Ratio_Nucleus_Band_mTEC.groovy; <https://tinyurl.com/ycbcoopk>).

723 Statistics

724 All statistical analysis was carried out using GraphPad Prism 8 (version 8.4.1; GraphPad software,
725 USA) as described in the text.

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Supplementary Table 1. TALEN target sites within conserved region flanking tdTomato cassette. Options used: array minimum = 15; array maximum = 20; spacer minimum = 15; spacer maximum = 24 and upstream base = T. RVD = repeat variable diresidue.

Begin of Table								
TAL1 length	TAL2 length	Spacer length	TAL1 RVDs	TAL2 RVDs	Plus strand sequence	Unique RE sites in spacer	% RVDs HD or NN/NH	Off-Target Counts
15	19	15	HD NH NI NH NH NH NI HD HD NG NI NI NG NI NI	NG NI NI NG NI NG NI NI HD NG NG HD NH NG NI NG NI NI NG	TCGAGGGACCTAATAACttcg tatagcatacATTATACGAAG TTATATTAA	none	28	0
16	18	15	HD NH NI NH NH NH NI HD HD NG NI NI NG NI NI HD	NG NI NI NG NI NG NI NI HD NG NG HD NH NG NI NG NI NI	TCGAGGGACCTAATAACttcg tatagcatacATTATACGAAG TTATATTAA	none	32	0
17	17	15	HD NH NI NH NH NH NI HD HD NG NI NI NG NI NI HD NG	NG NI NI NG NI NG NI NI HD NG NG HD NH NG NI NG NI	TCGAGGGACCTAATAACTtcg tatagcatacatTATACGAAG TTATATTAA	none	32	0
18	16	15	HD NH NI NH NH NH NI HD HD NG NI NI NG NI NI HD NG NG	NG NI NI NG NI NG NI NI HD NG NG HD NH NG NI NG	TCGAGGGACCTAATAACTTcg tatagcatacattATACGAAG TTATATTAA	none	32	0
19	15	15	HD NH NI NH NH NH NI HD HD NG NI NI NG NI NI HD NG NG HD	NG NI NI NG NI NG NI NI HD NG NG HD NH NG NI	TCGAGGGACCTAATAACTTCg tatagcatacattaTACGAAG TTATATTAA	none	35	0
16	20	23	HD NH NI NH NH NH NI HD HD NG NI NI NG NI NI HD	HD HD NH NH NI NI HD HD HD NG NG NI NI NG NI NG NI NI HD NG	TCGAGGGACCTAATAACttcg tatagcatacattatacgaAG TTATATTAAAGGGTCCGGA	none	44	0
18	20	21	HD NH NI NH NH NH NI HD HD NG NI NI NG NI NI HD NG NG	HD HD NH NH NI NI HD HD HD NG NG NI NI NG NI NG NI NI HD NG	TCGAGGGACCTAATAACTTcg tatagcatacattatacgaAG TTATATTAAAGGGTCCGGA	none	42	0

Continuation of Table

TAL1 length	TAL2 length	Spacer length	TAL1 RVDs	TAL2 RVDs	Plus strand sequence	Unique RE sites in spacer	% RVDs HD or NN/NH	Off-Target Counts
20	20	19	HD NH NI NH NH NH NI HD HD NG NI NI NG NI NI HD NG NG HD NH HD NH NI NH NH NH NI HD	HD HD NH NH NI NI HD HD HD NG NG NI NI NG NI NG NI NI HD NG HD HD NH NH NI NI HD HD	TCGAGGGACCTAATAACTTCG tatagcatacattatacgaAG TTATATTAAAGGGTCCCGA TCGAGGGACCTAATAACTTCG	none	45	0
20	19	20	HD NG NI NI NG NI NI HD NG NG HD NH HD NH NI NH NH NH NI HD	HD NG NG NI NI NG NI NG NI NI HD HD HD NH NH NI NI HD HD	tatagcatacattatacgaAG TTATATTAAAGGGTCCCGA TCGAGGGACCTAATAACTTCG	none	46	0
20	17	22	HD NG NI NI NG NI NI HD NG NG HD NH HD NH NI NH NH NH NI HD	HD NG NG NI NI NG NI NG NI HD HD NH NH NI NI HD HD	tatagcatacattatacgaag ttATATTAAAGGGTCCCGA TCGAGGGACCTAATAACTTCG	none	46	0
20	15	24	HD NG NI NI NG NI NI HD NG NG HD NH HD NH NI NH NH NH NI HD	HD HD NH NH NI NI HD HD HD NG NG NI NI NG NI NG NG HD NH	tatagcatacattatacgaag ttaTATTAAAGGGTCCCGA TCGAGGGACCTAATAACTTCG	none	49	0
16	18	15	NI NI NG NI NI HD NG NG HD NH NG NI NG NI NH HD	HD HD NH NH NI NI HD HD HD NG NG NI NI NG NI NG NI NI	TAATAACTTCGTATAGCatac attatacgaagTTATATTAAAG GGTTCCCGA	none	35	0
17	17	15	NI NI NG NI NI HD NG NG HD NH NG NI NG NI NH HD NI	HD HD NH NH NI NI HD HD HD NG NG NI NI NG NI NG NI	TAATAACTTCGTATAGCAtac attatacgaagtTATATTAAAG GGTTCCCGA	none	35	0
18	16	15	NI NI NG NI NI HD NG NG HD NH NG NI NG NI NH HD NI NG	HD HD NH NH NI NI HD HD HD NG NG NI NI NG NI NG	TAATAACTTCGTATAGCAtac attatacgaagttATATTAAAG GGTTCCCGA	none	35	0
19	15	15	NI NI NG NI NI HD NG NG HD NH NG NI NG NI NH HD NI NG NI	HD HD NH NH NI NI HD HD HD NG NG NI NI NG NI	TAATAACTTCGTATAGCAtac attatacgaagttTAATTAAAG GGTTCCCGA	none	35	0

End of Table

949 Supplementary Sequences

950 MC.HDR (FIVER)

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953 GGTGGCGGCAGGTGGGGTGCAGGGCGGGGGCGCCCTCGGGCCGGGAGGGCTCGGGGAGGGCGCGGCCGGGGAGGC
954 GCCCGCGGCTGTGAGGCGCGGCCAGCCATTGCCCTTATGGTAATCGTGCAGGGCAGGGACTTCCCTTGCCA
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966 CGGCAAGCTGACCCCTGAAGTTCATCTGCACCAACCGCAAGCTGCCGTGCCCTGGCCACCCCTCGTACCTACGGG
967 TGCAGTGCTTCAGCGTACCCGCCACATGAAGCAGCACGACTTCAAGTCCGGCATGCCGAAGGCTACGTCAGGAGCGC
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970 CCGACAAGCAGAAGAACGGCATCAAGGTGAACCTCAAGATCCGCCAACATCGAGGACGGCAGCGTAGCTGCCGACCAACTAC
971 CAGCGAACCCCCATCGGCAGGCCCGTGTGCTGCCGACAACCAACTACCTGAGCACCAGCTCCGCCCTGAGCAAAGACCC
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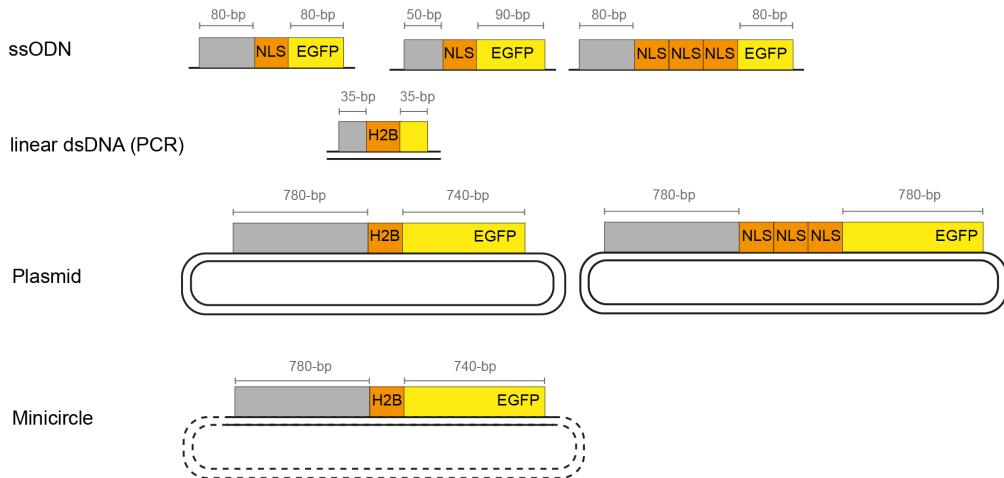
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980 CTAAGGCCATCACAAGTACACCCAGCGTAAGGATCCACCGCTGCCACATGAGGAGCTGATTAAGGAGAACATGCCACATGAAG
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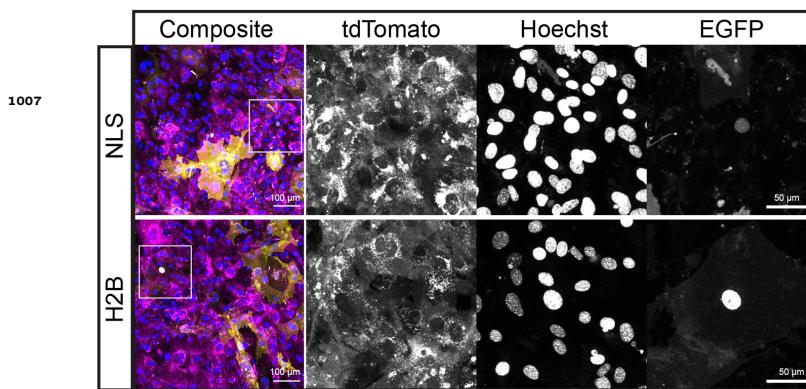
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A Alternative HDR repair constructs for FIVER



B



C

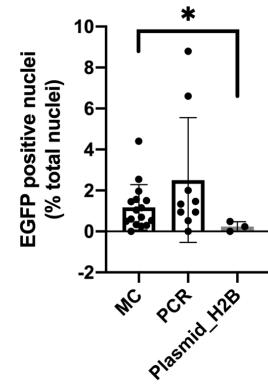


Figure 1-Figure supplement 1. Overview of fluorescent *in vivo* editing reporter (FIVER) system. (A) Schematic of alternative HDR constructs. Length of homology arms in each case indicated. Grey boxes indicate homology to sequence upstream of tdTomato, extending into the chimeric intron region. (B) Comparison of different nuclear localisation signals. Representative confocal images showing strength of nuclear signal driven by plasmid-derived 3xNLS or H2B tags. Images are maximum intensity projections of z-stacks. NLS = nuclear localisation signal, H2B = human histone H2B. (C) Assessment of HDR in FIVER MEFs after transfection with different repair constructs. HDR was determined by counting number of EGFP positive nuclei and total nuclei using an automated pipeline, $n > 10$ cells, $N \geq 3$ technical replicates. * $p = 0.0229$, one-way ANOVA with Brown-Forsythe and Welch's multiple comparisons.

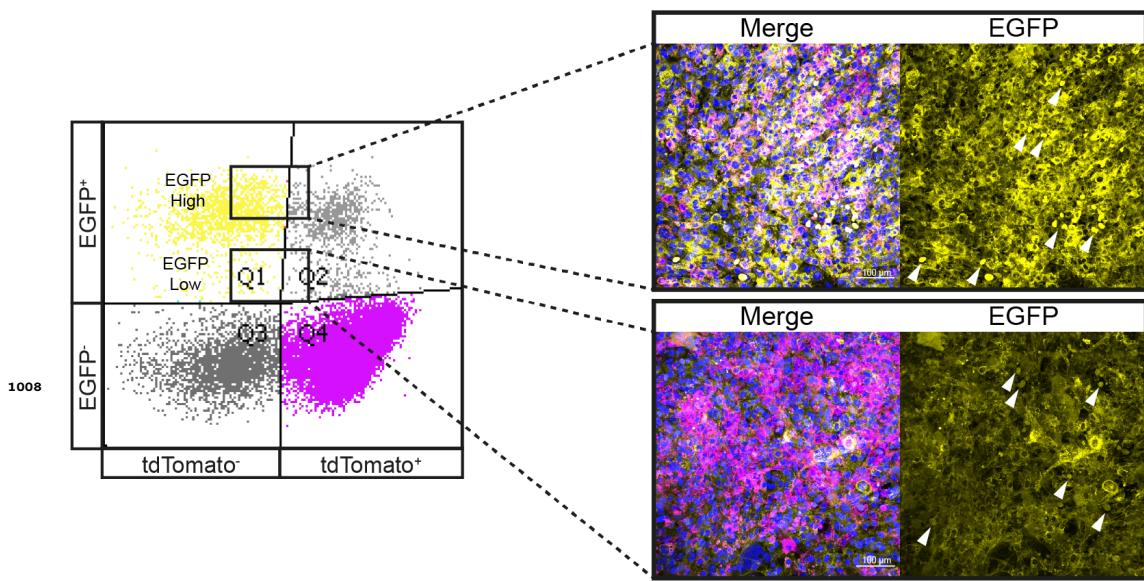


Figure 1-Figure supplement 2. Overview of fluorescent *in vivo* editing reporter (FIVER) system. Representative confocal maximum intensity projection images of sorted MEF populations. MEFs were transfected with RNPs and MC.HDR repair template. 5 days post transfection, FACS was carried out to investigate 'high' and 'low' EGFP populations for presence of nEGFP. Arrowheads indicate presence of nEGFP. Scale bar 100 μ m.

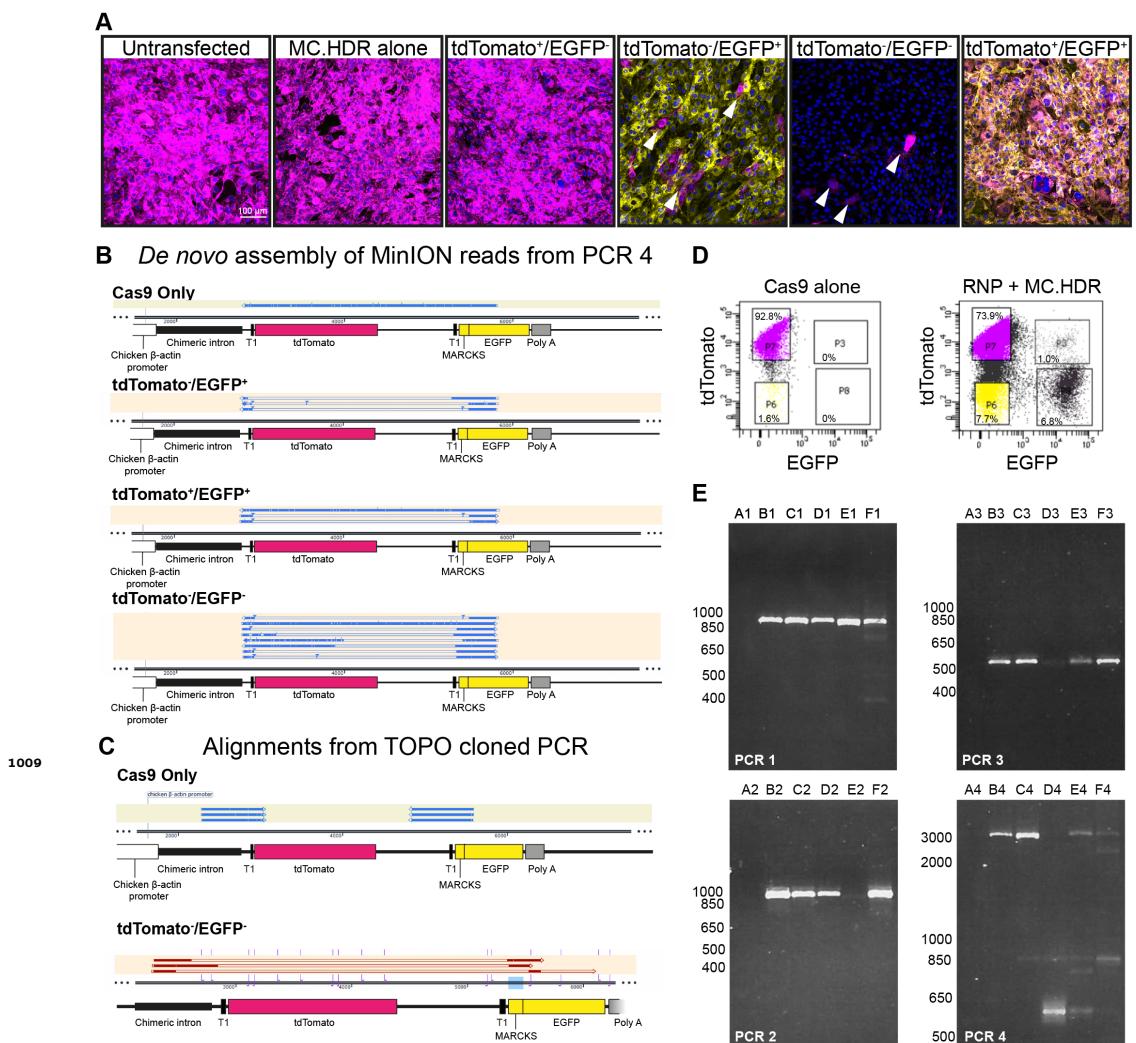


Figure 2-Figure supplement 1. Deep sequencing confirms editing outcomes observed by FIVER. (A) Representative confocal maximum intensity projection images of edited MEF populations after FACS. Arrowheads show infiltration of tdTomato⁺ cells into other sorted populations. Scale bar 100 μ m. (B) Alignments for *de novo* genome assembly of MinION reads from PCR 4. Assembled sequences are ordered based on the number of reads from which they were generated; assembled sequences generated from the greatest number of reads are uppermost. (C) Reads from TOPO cloning following amplification with P7-P8 (PCR 5) and P7-P9 (PCR 6) were aligned to reference sequences. Example alignments for PCR 6 are presented. (D) FACS plots illustrating gating used to sort each population for sequencing: tdTomato⁺/EGFP⁻ (400,000), tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁺ (20,000), tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁻ (20,000) and tdTomato⁺/EGFP⁺ (3,000). (E) Purified PCR products were analysed by agarose gel electrophoresis prior to sequencing. A = no template control. B = Cas9 only, tdTomato⁺, C = tdTomato⁺/EGFP⁻, D = tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁺, E = tdTomato⁺/EGFP⁺ and F = tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁻. Sizes are indicated in bp.

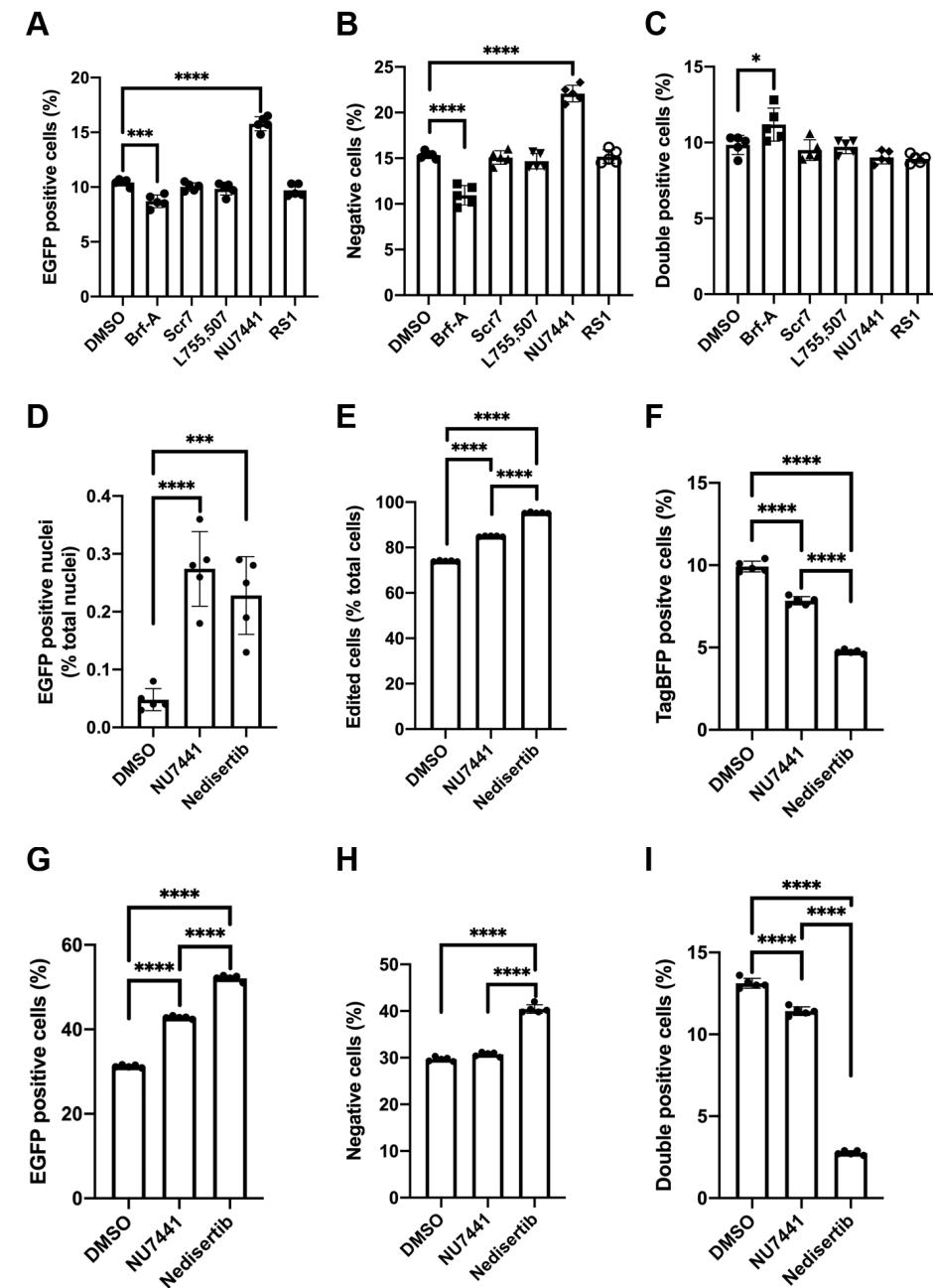


Figure 4-Figure supplement 1. Small molecule modulators of genome editing outcome. Editing outcomes were determined by flow cytometry after treatment with Brf-A (0.1 μ M), Scr7 (0.1 μ M), L755,507 (5 μ M), NU7441 (2 μ M) or RS1 (10 μ M) for 24 hours. (A) Total tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁺ cells, n = 60,000 cells, N = 5 technical replicates. (B) Total tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁻ cells, n = 60,000 cells, N = 5. (C) Total tdTomato⁺/EGFP⁺ cells, n = 60,000 cells, N = 5. Next, cells were treated with NU7441 (2 μ M) or Nedisertib (2 μ M) for 24 hours and editing outcomes determined by flow cytometry. (D) EGFP positive nuclei, determined by widefield microscopy, n > 10,000 cells, N = 5. (E) Total edited cells, determined by flow cytometry, n = 100,000 cells, N = 5. (F) Total TagBFP⁺ cells, determined by flow cytometry, n = 100,000 cells, N = 5. (G) Total tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁺ cells, n = 100,000 cells, N = 5. (H) Total tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁻ cells, n = 100,000 cells, N = 5. (I) Total tdTomato⁺/EGFP⁺ cells, n = 100,000 cells, N = 5. Significance was tested using one-way ANOVA and Dunnett's (for comparison to DMSO control) or Tukey's (for all comparisons) multiple comparisons, 0.0021 < p < 0.05 = *, 0.0002 < p < 0.0021 = **, 0.0001 < p < 0.0002 = ***, p < 0.0001 = ****.

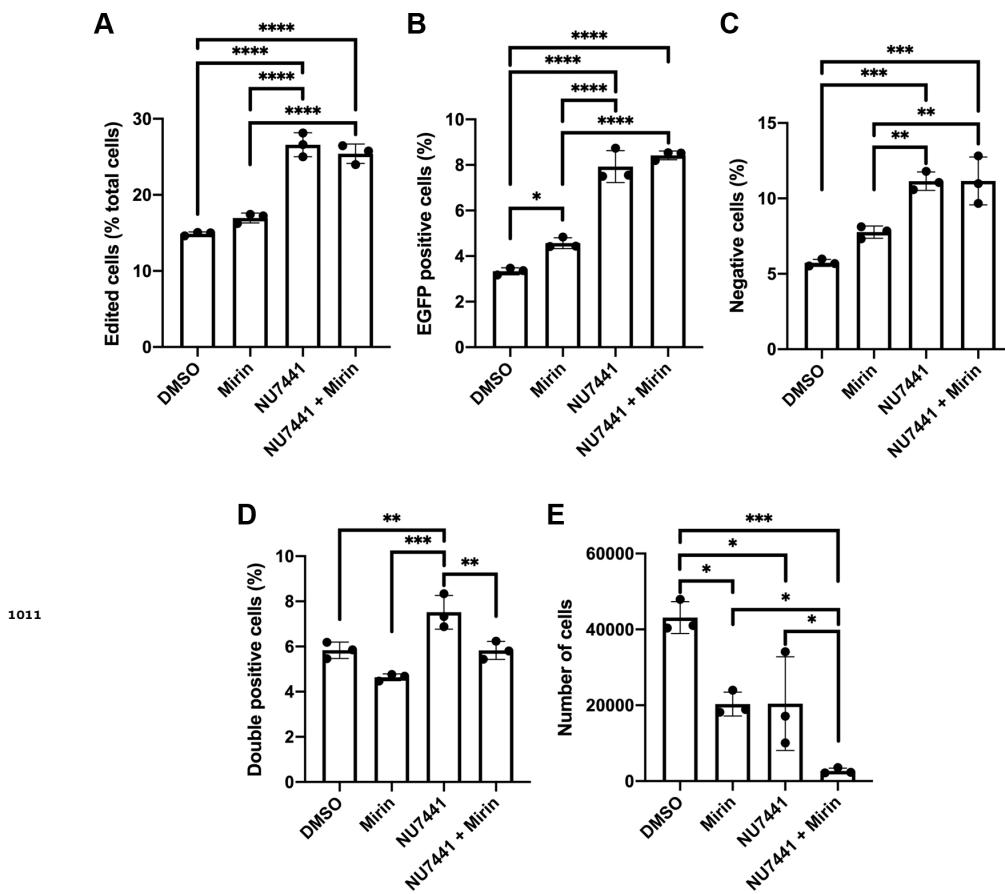
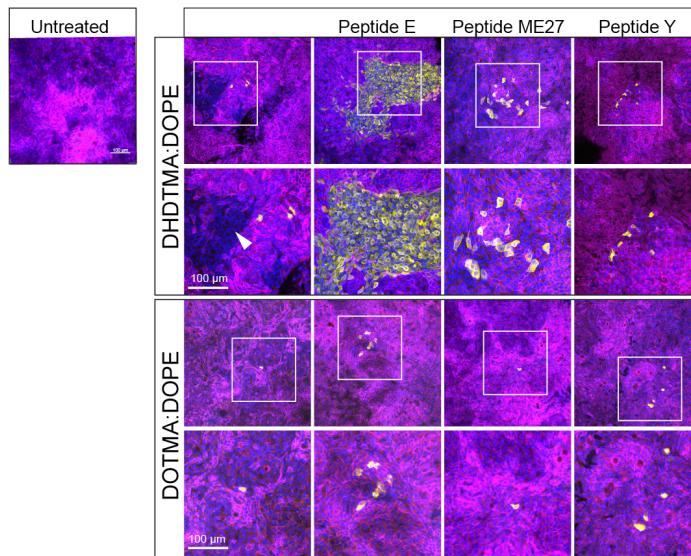
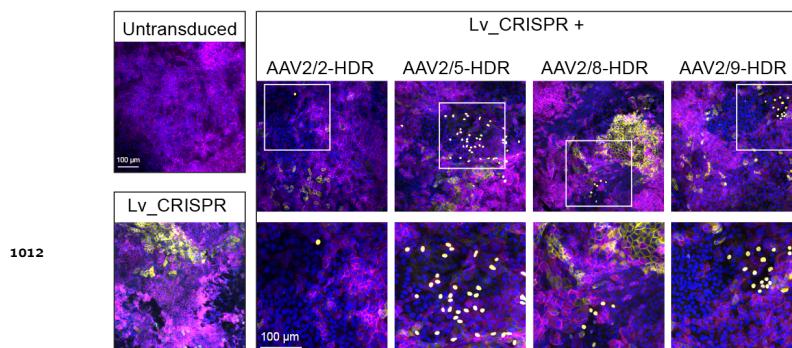


Figure 4-Figure supplement 2. Small molecule modulators of genome editing outcome. Editing outcomes were determined by flow cytometry 72 hours post transfection, following 24-hour treatment with mirin (50 μ M) and NU7441 (2 μ M), alone or in combination, immediately after transfection. (A) Total edited cells, n > 2,000 cells, N = 3 technical replicates. (B) Total tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁺ cells, n > 2,000 cells, N = 3 technical replicates. (C) Total tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁻ cells, n > 2,000 cells, N = 3 technical replicates. (D) Total tdTomato⁻/EGFP⁺ cells, n > 2,000 cells, N = 3 technical replicates. (E) Total cells sorted in 2 minutes, n > 2,000 cells, N = 3 technical replicates. Significance was tested using one-way ANOVA and or Tukey's multiple comparisons, 0.0021 < p < 0.05 = *, 0.0002 < p < 0.0021 = **, 0.0001 < p < 0.0002 = ***, p < 0.0001 = ****.

A



B



C

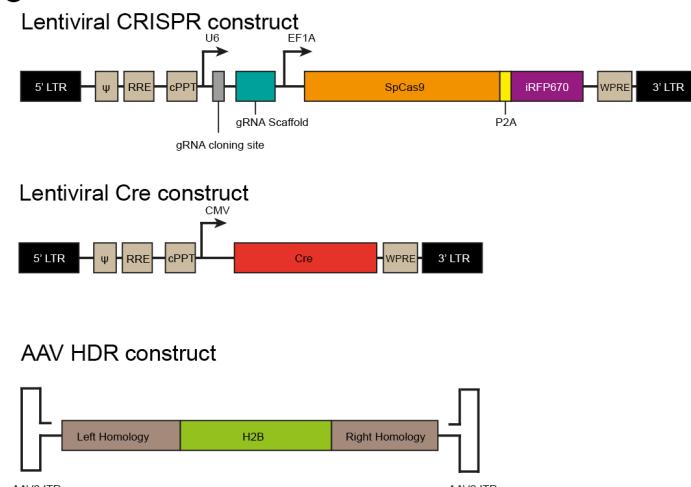


Figure 5-Figure supplement 1. FIVER allows establishment of disease-relevant primary cultures and organoids. (A) Representative confocal images of mTECs treated with lipid nanoparticles containing Cas9-T1 RNPs and MC.HDR. NHEJ editing indicated by mEGFP fluorescence or loss of mtTomato (arrowhead). Nuclei visualised with DAPI. (B) Representative confocal images following transduction of mTECs with different AAV serotypes in conjunction with lentiviral delivered CRISPR machinery. Nuclei visualised with DAPI. (C) Viral constructs for delivery of CRISPR machinery and HDR construct. Lv-Cre was used as a positive control for ductal liver organoid delivery, see Figure 5C. All images are maximum intensity projections of z-stacks.