

1 **Three-dimensional drug screen identifies HDAC inhibitors as therapeutic** 2 **agents in mTORC1-driven lymphangioliomyomatosis**

3
4 **Authors:** Adam Pietrobon^{1,2,3}, Julien Yockell-Lelièvre^{1,3}, Nicole Melong⁴, Laura J. Smith^{5,6,7},
5 Sean P. Delaney^{1,2,3}, Nadine Azzam⁴, Chang Xue^{6,7}, Nishanth Merwin⁸, Eric Lian^{1,2,3}, Alberto
6 Camacho-Magallanes^{1,2,3}, Carole Doré¹, Gabriel Musso⁸, Lisa M. Julian⁹, Arnold S. Kristof¹⁰,
7 Roger Y. Tam¹¹, Jason N. Berman^{2,4}, Molly S. Shoichet^{5,6,7,12}, William L. Stanford^{1,2,3*}

8 9 **Affiliations:**

10 ¹ The Sprott Centre for Stem Cell Research, Regenerative Medicine Program, Ottawa Hospital
11 Research Institute; Ottawa, Canada.

12 ² Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine, University of Ottawa; Ottawa, Canada.

13 ³ Ottawa Institute of Systems Biology; Ottawa, Canada.

14 ⁴ Department of Pediatrics, CHEO Research Institute; Ottawa, Canada.

15 ⁵ Department of Chemical Engineering and Applied Chemistry, University of Toronto; Toronto,
16 Canada.

17 ⁶ Institute for Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering, University of Toronto; Toronto,
18 Canada.

19 ⁷ The Donnelly Centre for Cellular and Biomolecular Research; Toronto, Canada.

20 ⁸ BioSymetrics, Inc; Toronto, Canada.

21 ⁹ Centre for Cell Biology, Development, and Disease, Department of Biological Sciences, Simon
22 Fraser University; Burnaby, Canada.

23 ¹⁰ Meakins-Christie Laboratories and Translational Research in Respiratory Diseases Program,
24 Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre, Faculty of Medicine, Departments of
25 Medicine and Critical Care; Montreal, Canada.

26 ¹¹ Centre for Biologics Evaluation, Biologic and Radiopharmaceutical Drugs Directorate, Health
27 Canada; Ottawa, Canada.

28 ¹² Department of Chemistry, University of Toronto; Toronto, Canada.

29
30 * Corresponding author

31 Dr. William L. Stanford, Ph.D.

32 The Ottawa Hospital, 501 Smyth Rd, Box 511, CCW 5206c

33 Ottawa, ON K1H 8L6, Canada

34 wstanford@ohri.ca

35
36 **One Sentence Summary:** We performed a drug screen in 3D and discovered HDAC inhibitors
37 exhibit therapeutic efficacy in models of the lung disease lymphangioliomyomatosis.

38 **ABSTRACT**

39 Lymphangiomyomatosis (LAM) is a rare disease involving cystic lung destruction by
40 invasive LAM cells. These cells harbor loss-of-function mutations in *TSC2*, conferring
41 constitutive mTORC1 signaling. Rapamycin is the only clinically approved disease-modifying
42 treatment, but its action is cytostatic and disease progresses upon its withdrawal. There is a
43 critical need to identify novel agents that prevent the invasive phenotype and/or eradicate the
44 neoplastic LAM cells. Here, we employed novel cellular and extracellular models to screen for
45 candidate therapeutics in a physiologically relevant setting. We observed that lung-mimetic
46 hydrogel culture of pluripotent stem cell-derived diseased cells more faithfully recapitulates
47 human LAM biology compared to conventional culture on two-dimensional tissue culture
48 plastic. Leveraging our culture system, we conducted a three-dimensional drug screen using a
49 custom 800-compound library, tracking cytotoxicity and invasion modulation phenotypes at the
50 single cell level. We identified histone deacetylase (HDAC) inhibitors as a group of anti-invasive
51 agents that are also selectively cytotoxic towards *TSC2*^{-/-} cells. Unexpectedly, we observed that
52 next generation ATP-competitive mTORC1/2 inhibitors potentiate invasion. We determined anti-
53 invasive effects of HDAC inhibitors to be independent of genotype, while selective cell death is
54 mTORC1-dependent and mediated by apoptosis. Drug performance was subsequently evaluated
55 at the single cell level in zebrafish xenografts. We observed consistent therapeutic efficacy *in*
56 *vivo* at equivalent concentrations to those used *in vitro*, substantiating HDAC inhibitors as
57 potential therapeutic candidates for pursuit in patients with LAM.

58 INTRODUCTION

59 Lymphangiomyomatosis (LAM) is a cystic lung disease predominately affecting
60 women, at a prevalence of 1 to 10 per million (1). LAM can occur sporadically or in association
61 with the multisystem tumor-forming disorder, Tuberous Sclerosis Complex (TSC) (2). The
62 pulmonary histopathology is characterized by microscopic nodules consisting of immature
63 smooth muscle-like cells that express markers of neural crest lineages (3). These invading cells
64 digest the lung parenchyma forming cystic lesions that lead to progressive respiratory decline
65 and fatality if untreated (4–6). The molecular etiology of LAM involves loss-of-function
66 mutations in the endogenous mTORC1 suppressor *TSC2*, thereby inducing hyperactivation of
67 mTORC1 anabolic and tumorigenic signalling (7). The allosteric mTORC1-inhibitor rapamycin
68 (clinically, sirolimus) slows disease progression and improves symptomatology (8–11). While
69 clinical approval of rapamycin by the FDA in 2015 has led to a dramatic new frontier in the
70 LAM therapeutic landscape, significant limitations exist. A subset of patients do not respond to
71 treatment, and rapamycin is invariably cytostatic, with rapid disease progression upon treatment
72 withdrawal (11, 12). There is a critical need to discover novel treatment strategies that can
73 eradicate LAM cells.

74 A key step in the pathway to therapeutic development is the effective modelling of
75 disease characteristics. In this domain, LAM has remained a challenge. Cultures of cells derived
76 from human pulmonary LAM lesions grow as a heterogeneous mixture with rapid exhaustion of
77 *TSC2*^{-/-} cells, prohibiting the establishment of clonal primary cell lines (13). While a genome
78 engineering strategy would seem straightforward for this monogenic disease, the cell-of-origin of
79 LAM remains unknown, begging the question of which cell type to engineer. While we have
80 demonstrated that *TSC2*^{-/-} human pluripotent stem cell-derived neural crest cells model several

81 phenotypic features of LAM (14), neural crest cells consist of a diverse and plastic population
82 that are not readily scalable for drug screening purposes. Animal models of LAM have been
83 comparably challenging to establish, and none to date have recapitulated pathognomonic features
84 such as histological premelanosome protein (PMEL) positivity and concomitant elevated serum
85 levels of vascular endothelial growth factor D (VEGF-D) (15).

86 An emerging consideration in disease modelling is the contribution of the extracellular
87 matrix (ECM) to disease biology. Water-swollen networks of polymers termed hydrogels have
88 arisen as effective tools for mimicking salient elements of the native ECM while exhibiting
89 mechanics similar to many soft tissues (16). Hydrogels can be broadly classified as either
90 natural, synthetic, or hybrid materials. One such hybrid scaffold is hyaluronic acid, a naturally-
91 sourced material that can be readily modified to independently tune ECM features of interest,
92 such as elasticity, stiffness, and viscosity (17). A viscoelastic hydrogel with a derivatized
93 hyaluronic acid backbone has been shown to permit the study of invasive properties of LAM
94 cellular models in three-dimensional culture (18). Importantly, three-dimensional culture systems
95 have been demonstrated as more predictive of *in vivo* drug responses compared to conventional
96 culture on two-dimensional plastic (19, 20).

97 In recent years, there has been a resurgence of interest in phenotype-based screens for
98 drug discovery compared to target-based approaches (21). An analysis of therapeutics approved
99 between 1999 and 2008 revealed that 62% first-in-class drugs were discovered by phenotype-
100 based screens, despite the fact that such screens represented only a small subset of the overall
101 total (22). The apparent superiority of phenotype-based approaches may in part arise from the
102 ability to identify compounds which exhibit a therapeutic effect by modulating multiple targets
103 simultaneously (21). In addition, phenotypic drug screens can be multiplexed with counter-

104 screening, ensuring candidate therapeutics do not also confer undesirable side-effects, such as
105 physiological toxicity. In the context of LAM, a monogenetic disease, this counter-screening
106 takes shape by directly comparing *TSC2*^{-/-} cells against matched wild type (WT) controls.

107 Here, we analyze a novel hydrogel culture system of pluripotent stem cell-derived
108 models, and observe the cell type employed, genotype, and culture substrate all contribute to
109 modelling features of LAM. We performed a three-dimensional drug screen, tracking
110 cytotoxicity and invasion modulation phenotypes at the single cell level. We identified histone
111 deacetylase (HDAC) inhibitors as anti-invasive and selectively cytotoxic towards *TSC2*^{-/-} cells.
112 Importantly, we observed consistent therapeutic efficacy upon xenotransplantation of human cell
113 models into zebrafish larvae, highlighting HDAC inhibitors as potential therapeutic candidates
114 for pursuit in patients.

115 **RESULTS**

116 **Stem cell-derived models exhibit features of LAM, independent of genotype**

117 As pulmonary LAM cells are not amenable to expansion upon lesion explant, (13) we
118 established primary cell lines by *in vivo* differentiation of human pluripotent stem cells (hPSCs),
119 as previously described (23). Briefly, hPSCs were injected into NOD.Cg-Prkdc^{scid} Il2rg^{tm1Wjl}/SzJ
120 (NSG) immunodeficient mice to form teratomas, which were explanted and expanded in smooth
121 muscle-cell enriching conditions (Fig. S1A). We used a previously reported isogenic pair of
122 female mCherry⁺ WT and genome-engineered *TSC2*^{-/-} hPSCs (14). Cell cultures exhibit a
123 predominately spindle cell morphology and express α -smooth muscle actin (ACTA2) protein in
124 all isolated cells (Fig. 1A, Fig. S1B). Further, immunofluorescence analysis identified a small
125 fraction of PMEL⁺ cells (~0.13%), a hallmark marker of pulmonary LAM (Fig. 1A, Fig. S1C).
126 The high fraction of ACTA2⁺ and low fraction of PMEL⁺ cells in culture is consistent with the
127 relative abundance of these markers in heterogenous human LAM lesions (3). Notably, the
128 percentage of PMEL⁺ and ACTA2⁺ cells did not vary between WT and *TSC2*^{-/-} (Fig. S1B-C).
129 Secreted VEGF-D, a critical biochemical biomarker used in the diagnosis of LAM, was detected
130 in the supernatant of both WT and *TSC2*^{-/-} cultures and was insensitive to acute rapamycin
131 treatment (Fig. 1B). Together, these data suggest the cell models employed exhibit features of
132 LAM as a product of the cell type isolated, independent of genotype.

133

134 **Three-dimensional hydrogel culture enables study of the LAM invasive phenotype at single** 135 **cell resolution**

136 We next sought to model the pulmonary invasive phenotype of LAM cells by adapting a
137 lung-mimetic hydrogel culture system (18). The hydrogel is synthesized by crosslinking

138 hyaluronic acid strands with matrix metalloprotease (MMP)-cleavable peptides, while
139 embedding vitronectin peptides and methylcellulose to increase cell adhesion and matrix
140 plasticity, respectively. Cells are plated on top of the synthesized hydrogel and actively invade
141 through the material (Fig. 1C-D, Supplementary Movies 1-2). By staining with a nuclear dye and
142 acquiring multiplanar images through the optically clear hydrogel, we identify every cell in XYZ
143 planes and compute invasion distances at single cell resolution (Fig. S1D).

144 We observed all cells from both WT and *TSC2*^{-/-} cultures to invade through the hydrogel,
145 albeit at variable distances (Fig. 1E). On average, WT cultures invaded further than *TSC2*^{-/-} in a
146 manner insensitive to acute rapamycin treatment (Fig. 1F). We posited that differing invasion
147 distances of cells in the same culture reflect a cell autonomous property, rather than a reflection
148 of stochasticity. To test this, we isolated and expanded clones from WT and *TSC2*^{-/-} bulk cultures
149 and subjected these clones to hydrogel culture. We observed a subset of clones with dramatically
150 high invasion speeds, and likewise, a subset with slow invasion speeds (Fig. S1E). These data
151 suggest differential cell autonomous capacities for invasion in putative heterogenous cultures.
152 Finally, we investigated modes of invasion employed by LAM cell models in this hydrogel
153 system. Similar to previous findings (18), we observed a decrease in invasion upon treatment
154 with the pan-MMP inhibitor GM6001 or the Rho-kinase (ROCK) inhibitor Y27632, indicating
155 both protease-dependent and independent modes of invasion employed (Fig. 1G).

156

157 **Loss of *TSC2* and hydrogel culture both confer transcriptomic features of LAM**

158 To profile our cell culture system more comprehensively, we conducted bulk RNA-seq of
159 WT and *TSC2*^{-/-} cells, in the presence or absence of rapamycin, and in both plastic and hydrogel
160 culture, for a total of 8 sample conditions (Fig. 1H). Principal components analysis (PCA)

161 revealed sample genotype to be driving the primary axis of variation, and culture substrate to be
162 driving the secondary axis of variation (Fig. 1I). Rapamycin treatment induced a substantial
163 global transcriptomic change in the *TSC2*^{-/-} cells, inducing a profile more similar to WT cells
164 (Fig. 1I).

165 We conducted differential expression analysis comparing across genotype (*TSC2*^{-/-} vs.
166 WT) and culture substrate (hydrogel vs. plastic) in untreated samples, while holding the
167 reciprocal covariate constant. At a false discovery rate (FDR) < 0.05, we identified 6,317
168 differentially expressed genes (DEGs, 1,793 with $|\log_2FC| > 1$) between WT and *TSC2*^{-/-}, and
169 4,432 DEGs (771 with $|\log_2FC| > 1$) between plastic and hydrogel (Table S1A-B, Fig. S1F-G).
170 While exhibiting some overlap, these DEG lists were largely distinct (Fig. S1H). We found
171 78.8% of the DEGs distinguishing genotype to be reversed by rapamycin treatment, suggesting
172 mTORC1-dependency (Fig. 1J, left panel). In contrast, the expression of DEGs distinguishing
173 plastic versus hydrogel cultures remained largely unchanged in the presence of rapamycin (Fig.
174 1J, right panel). We next examined the overlap of these DEGs with a recently published LAM
175 gene signature derived from single cell RNA-seq profiling of primary lesions (24). We observed
176 that both DEG lists overlap substantially (65.8% of the total 760 LAM genes) and share both
177 common and distinct genes with the LAM gene signature (Fig. 1K).

178 To glean further biological insight, we conducted GO term enrichment (Table S2A-B,
179 Fig. S1I-J). Both DEG lists ranked “extracellular matrix organization” as most highly enriched,
180 which is also the top enriched term in a primary LAM lesion gene signature list (24). The DEGs
181 distinguishing genotype were also enriched in many terms related to development, similar to
182 primary LAM lesions (24). Interestingly, the DEGs distinguishing culture substrates were largely
183 enriched in terms related to proliferation (Table S1B, Fig. S1J). LAM is an indolent disease

184 which progresses at a slow pace relative to other invasive diseases; only a small fraction of cells
185 actively proliferative in primary LAM lesions (3). On plastic, we found LAM cell models
186 proliferated rapidly, with ~30% of cells incorporating EdU after a short 3-hour pulse (Fig. 1L).
187 In contrast, *TSC2*^{-/-} cells proliferated at a slightly slower pace, consistent with previous studies of
188 loss of *TSC2* in primary cells (25). Acute rapamycin treatment reduced proliferation of *TSC2*^{-/-}
189 cells but did not have a detectable effect on WT cultures. However, subjecting cells to hydrogel
190 culture caused a dramatic decrease in cell proliferation (Fig. 1L), likely reflective of the
191 proliferation-invasion dichotomy (26). Together, these data suggest both genotype (loss of *TSC2*)
192 and culture substrate (3D hydrogel) induce transcriptomic landscapes which model LAM
193 features.

194

195 **Hydrogel culture potentiates differential mTORC1-signalling between WT and *TSC2*^{-/-} cells**

196 mTORC1 hyperactivation is a hallmark feature of primary LAM lesions compared to
197 normal adjacent WT tissue. To assess mTORC1 signalling status, we performed a low input
198 western blot, probing for downstream mTORC1 effectors pS6RP and p4E-BP1. Culturing cells
199 on plastic (2D) showed marginal differences in mTORC1 signalling between WT and *TSC2*^{-/-}
200 cells, and both cell types demonstrated activation of mTORC1 above rapamycin-treated levels
201 (Fig. 2A). Remarkably, culturing on hydrogel potentiated a dramatic difference in mTORC1
202 signalling, with WT cells downregulating activity to rapamycin-treated levels and *TSC2*^{-/-} cells
203 upregulating signalling above levels seen on plastic alone. This is consistent with the PCA of
204 transcriptomic landscapes, whereby WT untreated and WT rapamycin-treated samples from
205 hydrogel culture cluster slightly more closely compared to plastic culture (Fig. 1I). To
206 corroborate these findings at the single cell level, we examined mTORC1 signalling by

207 immunofluorescence (Fig. 2B, S2A). While a small difference in mTORC1 signalling was
208 observed between WT and *TSC2*^{-/-} cells cultured on plastic, this difference was potentiated in 3D
209 hydrogel culture. Importantly, mTORC1 signalling in WT cells was seen to mirror rapamycin-
210 treated levels only when cultured on hydrogel.

211 We sought to further explore the genotype-selective changes induced by hydrogel culture
212 by interrogation of our bulk RNA-seq dataset. To do so, we tested for genes with a significant
213 coefficient fit to the genotype:substrate interaction term (See Supplementary Materials and
214 Methods) and identified 761 DEGs at FDR < 0.05 (Table S1C). Network analysis of GO terms
215 enriched in this DEG list revealed two principal nodes, one related to sterol synthesis and the
216 other to ribonucleotide metabolism (Fig. 2C, Table S2C). Notably, both these metabolic
217 pathways have been associated with mTORC1 activity (27).

218 To unearth mTORC1-dependent transcriptomic alterations between WT and *TSC2*^{-/-} that
219 differ between plastic and hydrogel culture, we clustered the 761 DEGs based on their
220 expression pattern across the 8 experimental conditions (Fig. S2B). Strikingly, genes related to
221 sterol synthesis and ribonucleotide metabolism partitioned largely into two distinct clusters (Fig.
222 S2B). We next classified each gene cluster into one of three categories based on the magnitude
223 of expression differences between WT and *TSC2*^{-/-}, and whether the expression changes were
224 rescued by rapamycin (Fig. S2C). Remarkably, we find that 69% of the 761 DEGs showed a
225 greater (or a unique) difference between WT and *TSC2*^{-/-} cells in hydrogel culture compared to
226 plastic, which was rescued by rapamycin (Fig. 2D). Together, these results demonstrate that
227 hydrogel culture potentiates differential mTORC1 signalling between WT and *TSC2*^{-/-} cells,
228 reinforcing a physiologically relevant environment in which mTORC1-dependent phenotypes
229 can be identified.

230

231 **Three-dimensional drug screen identifies compounds that modulate invasion and cell**
232 **viability**

233 We next employed our hydrogel culture system to identify potential therapeutic
234 compounds. Cell death was measured at the single cell level by application of the live cell
235 imaging fluorophore SyTOX, which selectively permeates cells with compromised plasma
236 membrane integrity. We first tested a known cytotoxic compound, the proteasome inhibitor
237 carfilzomib, and identified substantial cell death by live cell imaging (Fig. 3A, S3A).
238 Additionally, we confirmed the ability to detect invasion modulation effects at the single cell
239 level by employing the known anti-invasion Src kinase inhibitor dasatinib (Fig. 3B, S3B). To
240 achieve the throughput necessary for a therapeutic screen, we acquired live cell images by high
241 content microscopy paired with automated image analysis tools developed in house. We
242 calculated the drug screen Z' (a metric for assay quality) to be 0.873 for cytotoxicity
243 measurements and 0.533 for invasion modulation. We subsequently screened a curated library of
244 800 structurally diverse, bioactive, membrane-penetrant compounds (Fig. 3C, Table S3A). Of
245 these compounds, 39% have been trialed and shown to be safe for use in humans. We tested each
246 compound on both WT and *TSC2*^{-/-} cells in the presence and absence of rapamycin to elucidate
247 mTORC1-dependency.

248 We found a wide variety of compounds with invasion modulatory and cytotoxic
249 capabilities (Table S3B-C). Unsurprisingly, highly cytotoxic compounds also led to a reduction
250 in bulk invasion (Fig. 3D). This trend was independent of genotype and rapamycin treatment
251 (Fig. S3C). However, we observed many compounds which conferred an anti-invasive effect in
252 the absence of detectable cytotoxicity (Fig. 3D, S3C). We next computed therapeutic invasion z -

253 scores (i.e., statistical measure of compound effect size) by comparing against the vehicle control
254 invasion distribution. Remarkably, while we identified several anti-invasive compounds,
255 numerous compounds significantly increased invasion (Fig. 3E-F), a phenotype that would be
256 otherwise overlooked if screening on two-dimensional plastic and could lead to severe adverse
257 consequences in the clinical setting. In general, more compounds in this library were identified to
258 significantly attenuate rather than potentiate invasion (Fig. 3F). Importantly, we observed a
259 substantial overlap in the compounds identified to be anti-invasive across genotypes and
260 treatment conditions, with very few drugs demonstrating a genotype-selective block to invasion
261 (Fig. 3G, S3D). Together, these data demonstrate the identification of a collection of compounds
262 which block invasion in these cell populations, irrespective of *TSC2* genotype.

263 A key goal in the therapeutic development landscape for LAM is the identification of
264 compounds which exert selective cytotoxicity towards *TSC2*^{-/-} cells. Interestingly, we observed
265 that *TSC2*^{-/-} cells exhibited pan-compound resistance, with over 7-fold more compounds
266 demonstrating significant cytotoxicity towards WT compared to *TSC2*^{-/-} cells (Fig. 3H). This
267 selectivity is reduced to half with the addition of rapamycin, suggesting generalized resistance is
268 largely due to mTORC1 hyperactivation in *TSC2*^{-/-} cells. (Fig. 3H). We compared the list of
269 compounds that are selectively cytotoxic towards *TSC2*^{-/-} cells in the presence versus absence of
270 rapamycin, and observed only a 15% overlap, indicating therapeutic vulnerabilities vary
271 depending on mTORC1 signalling activity (Fig. 3I). In summary, we identified a suite of anti-
272 invasive and selectively cytotoxic therapeutics which can be mined for further development in
273 LAM (Table S3B-C).

274

275 **Enrichment analysis predicts HDAC inhibitors as anti-invasive and selectively cytotoxic**
276 **towards *TSC2*^{-/-} cells**

277 To refine our small molecule list for further investigation, we sought to identify
278 outperforming compounds which modulate targets of the same class. Using the known annotated
279 targets of the employed compounds, we performed target enrichment analysis by adapting the
280 Gene Set Enrichment Analysis (GSEA) algorithm. We identified targets conferring well-
281 established selective cytotoxicity towards *TSC2*^{-/-} and anti-invasive classes, including
282 proteasome inhibition (cytotoxicity) and Src and Rho kinase inhibition (anti-invasive) (Fig. S3E-
283 F, Table S4A-D). Of note, Src inhibition, a therapeutic route explored in LAM, was found to be
284 selectively cytotoxic towards WT cells (Fig. S3E). Remarkably, pan-HDAC inhibition was
285 observed to be the only class in the top 10 most significant annotations for selective cytotoxicity
286 towards *TSC2*^{-/-} and generalized anti-invasion. We note a substantial favourable enrichment of
287 HDAC-targeting compounds by both metrics, however, not all compounds annotated to inhibit
288 HDACs performed favourably (Fig 3J).

289 A limiting factor to our analyses was the small number of compounds which were
290 identified to selectively eliminate *TSC2*^{-/-} cells. We sought to extend our compound list *in silico*
291 using a structure-based approach with a mechanism of action prediction algorithm (ElionTM). In
292 brief, chemical features are extracted from compound structures and matched with screen
293 performance values to train a machine learning algorithm for prediction of other possibly
294 efficacious compounds. Compounds predicted to be efficacious *in silico* are then analyzed by
295 target enrichment and pathway analysis. Using this approach, we corroborated HDACs as highly
296 enriched targets for both selective cytotoxicity and anti-invasion (Table S5A-B). GO term
297 analysis on significant targets identifies nearly all top predicted pathways relate to deacetylation

298 activity, for both selective cytotoxicity and anti-invasion (Fig. 3K, Table S5C-D). These data
299 together highlighted HDAC inhibitors as promising therapeutics which we explored further and
300 present herein.

301

302 **HDAC inhibitors are selectively cytotoxic towards *TSC2*^{-/-} cells exclusively in hydrogel**
303 **culture**

304 We further tested 11 HDAC inhibitors from our compound library at a wider range of
305 concentrations and identified three to be selectively cytotoxic towards *TSC2*^{-/-} cells: SAHA
306 (clinically, Vorinostat), SB939 (Pracinostat), and LBH589 (Panobinostat), all of which are pan-
307 HDAC inhibitors (Fig. 4A). We note the atypical therapeutic dose-response curves and
308 selectivity, demonstrating marginal differences in IC₅₀ *per se* but substantial variation in
309 maximal toxicity (Fig. 4B). Selective cytotoxicity was largely reversed by co-treatment with
310 rapamycin, suggesting mTORC1-dependency. Importantly, the magnitude of cytotoxic
311 selectivity between WT and *TSC2*^{-/-} cells increased with treatment duration (Fig. S4A). We
312 corroborated selective cell death functionally via clonogenic assays (Fig. S4B). Remarkably,
313 when these HDAC inhibitors were tested with cells cultured on plastic, we did not observe any
314 genotype-selectivity in their cytotoxic profile (Fig. 4A-B). In addition, inhibitor profiles
315 employed in plastic culture did not change in the presence of rapamycin, suggesting a loss of
316 mTORC1-dependency for cytotoxic effects (Fig. 4A-B). While HDAC inhibitors did modulate
317 the proliferation of cells in hydrogel culture, a substantial proliferation blockade was exerted
318 when cells were cultured on plastic, in both genotypes (Fig. S4C). Together, these data indicate a
319 striking difference in cellular responses to HDAC inhibitor treatment while cultured on plastic
320 versus hydrogel. Importantly, HDAC inhibitors only demonstrate mTORC1-dependent selective

321 toxicity towards *TSC2*^{-/-} cells while treated in hydrogel culture. These data are consistent with
322 observation of hydrogel culture potentiating differential mTORC1 signalling between WT and
323 *TSC2*^{-/-} cells (Fig. 2, S2).

324

325 **HDAC inhibitors induce cell death via apoptosis**

326 We next sought to probe the mode of cell death induced by HDAC inhibitors. Previous
327 studies have provided evidence for both HDAC inhibitor-mediated apoptosis as well as
328 autophagic cell death (28). Considering we observed a reduction in cell death when co-treated
329 with rapamycin, a potent inducer of autophagy, we hypothesized the predominant cell death
330 mode to be apoptosis. To test this postulation, we employed live cell apoptosis imaging reagents,
331 including cleaved caspase 3 (CASP3) and Annexin V. We validated their activity in our hydrogel
332 culture using staurosporine, a known inducer of apoptosis (Fig. S4D-E). For all three HDAC
333 inhibitors, we observed temporal accumulation of Annexin V and cleaved CASP3 with treatment
334 duration in hydrogel (Fig. 4C-D, S4F). Importantly, we discerned a complete rescue of cell death
335 by co-treatment with the caspase inhibitor Z-VAD (OMe)-FMK (Fig. 4E, S4G). Together, these
336 data demonstrate the employed HDAC inhibitors induce apoptotic cell death in hydrogel culture.

337

338 **HDAC inhibitors are anti-invasive, independent of cytotoxic effects**

339 To separate the anti-invasive effects from cytotoxic effects of these HDAC inhibitors, we
340 identified and computationally removed SyTOX⁺ cells from invasion calculations (Fig. S5A).
341 We determined all three HDAC inhibitors exhibited a dose-dependent anti-invasion effect on
342 SyTOX⁻ cells (Fig. 5A-B). HDAC inhibitors exerted anti-invasive effects on both WT and *TSC2*^{-/-}
343 ^{-/-} cells in the presence or absence of rapamycin. (Fig 5A-B, S5B-C). Of note, the effect size was

344 generally larger in the *TSC2*^{-/-} cells, and LBH589 demonstrated a trend towards reduced invasion
345 that was not statistically significant. Remarkably, of the 11 HDAC inhibitors we tested, eight
346 demonstrated anti-invasive effects in a dose-dependent manner (Fig. S5D). When aggregated as
347 a class of therapeutics, there is a clear increase in anti-invasive effects with escalating doses,
348 independent of cytotoxicity (Fig. 5C). Together, these data demonstrate HDAC inhibitors are
349 effective anti-invasive agents independent of their cytotoxic profile.

350

351 **ATP-competitive mTORC1/2 inhibitors potentiate cell invasion**

352 A surprising result of our 3D drug screen is the classification of ATP-competitive
353 mTORC1/2 inhibitors as invasion potentiators (Fig. S3F). We interrogated this further due to its
354 clinical relevance, as ATP-competitive inhibitors are in active development for a wide range of
355 hyperactive mTOR conditions (29). Across a five-point dose-response curve, we observed an
356 increase in invasion from three distinct mTORC1/2 inhibitors, independent of cytotoxic effects
357 (Fig. 5D-E). Invasion potentiation was observed in both WT and *TSC2*^{-/-} cells in the presence or
358 absence of rapamycin (Fig. 5D-E, S5E-F). The extent of invasion potentiation varied across
359 conditions: WT cells exhibited a greater increase in invasion compared to *TSC2*^{-/-}, and the effect
360 was exaggerated in both genotypes by co-treatment with rapamycin (Fig. S5G). Aggregating the
361 effects of all three mTOR inhibitors showed a dose-dependent potentiation of invasion for this
362 class of compounds (Fig. 5F). Together, these data demonstrate ATP-competitive inhibition of
363 mTORC1/2 increases cell invasion.

364

365 **Xenotransplantation of LAM cell models into zebrafish larvae permits dynamic tracking of** 366 **cell invasion**

367 We next sought to evaluate the *in vivo* efficacy of the HDAC inhibitors SAHA, SB939,
368 and LBH589. Consistent with previous findings, we found that loss of *TSC2* alone was
369 insufficient to confer tumorigenicity upon subcutaneous xenotransplantation in immunodeficient
370 mice (Fig. S6A). To avoid immortalization of our cell models- a process which dramatically
371 alters cellular characteristics- we performed a well-established xenotransplantation assay in
372 zebrafish larvae (31, 32). In this system, WT or *TSC2*^{-/-} cells are injected into the hindbrain
373 ventricle of zebrafish larvae 3 days post-fertilization, imaged 1 day post-injection (dpi) to ensure
374 successful engraftment, and then imaged again at 4 dpi to visualize local invasion (Fig. 6A-B).
375 Cells were tracked by their endogenous mCherry expression (14). The optical clarity of this
376 system provides the advantage of enabling isogenic comparisons between WT and *TSC2*^{-/-}
377 human cells *in vivo* while dynamically tracking cell invasion.

378 To quantify invasion in an unbiased fashion, we computed the ratio of mCherry signal
379 found outside the injection site compared to within (Fig. S6B-C). Using this method, we
380 accurately detect near zero invasion scores 1 dpi, followed by a substantial increase 4 dpi (Fig.
381 6C). We observed comparable invasion scores between WT and *TSC2*^{-/-} cells which were
382 unaffected by rapamycin treatment, consistent with *in vitro* data (Fig. 6D). To quantify human
383 cell proliferation and cell death, we digested and pooled whole larvae (15 - 20 per condition)
384 followed by flow cytometry analysis, probing for mCherry and human-specific CASP3.
385 Consistent with xenotransplantation in mice, these cells were not tumorigenic and the rate of
386 clearance outstripped proliferation (Fig. S6D). The number of cells at 4 dpi was comparable
387 between genotypes and unaffected by rapamycin treatment (Fig. 6E). The percentage of CASP3⁺
388 cells in the mCherry⁺ population was ~10% and equivalent across conditions, similar to baseline
389 cell death rates seen in hydrogel culture (Fig. 3A, 6F).

390

391 **HDAC inhibitors SAHA and SB939 block cell invasion and selectively eradicate *TSC2*^{-/-}**
392 **cells *in vivo***

393 We next employed our zebrafish xenograft system to assess the efficacy of HDAC
394 inhibitors *in vivo*. To achieve the highest quality of pre-clinical evidence, experiments were
395 conducted in a randomized, double-blinded, placebo-controlled fashion. We first established
396 dose-toxicity profiles for each HDAC inhibitor: SB939 and LBH589 conferred an IC₅₀ of 53.1
397 μM and 6.74 μM respectively, while the favourable toxicity profile of SAHA precluded
398 calculation of an IC₅₀ value (Fig. S6E). Of note, *in vivo* HDAC inhibitor potency correlated with
399 the *in vitro* cytotoxicity profile. Zebrafish engrafted with either WT or *TSC2*^{-/-} cells were treated
400 with HDAC inhibitors by immersion therapy, in the presence or absence of rapamycin.
401 Importantly, we used the same compound concentration as those employed *in vitro*, which was
402 well below each compound's IC₅₀ value.

403 After three days of treatment, we observed that SAHA and SB939 exerted a statistically
404 significant anti-invasive effect in the absence of rapamycin, exclusively on the *TSC2*^{-/-} cells (Fig.
405 6G). SB939 also demonstrated a statistically significant anti-invasive effect in the presence of
406 rapamycin. We note that live cells could not be distinguished from dead or dying cells in this
407 quantification. However, by flow cytometry we observed an increase in the percentage of human
408 *TSC2*^{-/-} cells to be CASP3⁺ upon treatment with SAHA and SB939 (Fig. 6H) This effect was
409 abrogated upon combination treatment with rapamycin and was not observed in the human WT
410 cells. Together, these data indicate the HDAC inhibitors SAHA and SB939 exhibit *in vivo* anti-
411 invasion and selective cytotoxicity effects towards *TSC2*^{-/-} cells.

412 **DISCUSSION**

413 Here, we subject novel tissue-engineered models of LAM to a three-dimensional drug
414 screen to detect physiologically relevant therapeutics. We identified HDAC inhibitors as anti-
415 invasive and selectively cytotoxic towards *TSC2*^{-/-} cells, both *in vitro* and *in vivo*. In contrast, the
416 gold standard therapeutic agent for LAM patients, rapamycin, did not exhibit any cytotoxic or
417 anti-invasive effects. To our knowledge, this is the first high content compound screen to
418 simultaneously track invasion modulation and cytotoxicity at the single cell level. Importantly,
419 we report the first zebrafish xenotransplantation system using LAM-like cells, extending
420 parametrization of therapeutic effects at the single cell level *in vivo* while comparing WT versus
421 *TSC2*^{-/-} cells.

422 Our research identifies pan-HDAC inhibitors as potential therapeutic candidates for
423 pursuit in LAM patients. Notably, the selective cytotoxic effect towards *TSC2*^{-/-} cells was only
424 observed in hydrogel culture and would have otherwise been missed using standard screening in
425 2D tissue culture plastic (Fig. 4A-B). This finding complements a recent study evidencing
426 therapeutic efficacy of HDAC inhibitors in a *Tsc1*^{-/-}-driven mouse model of lymphangiosarcoma
427 (33). HDAC inhibitors present an opportune class of molecules for pursuit due to the wide
428 variety of compounds already approved for clinical use. Indeed, both SAHA and LBH589 are
429 approved for use in cutaneous T cell lymphoma and multiple myeloma, respectively (34, 35).
430 The safe-in-human toxicity profile of these compounds will facilitate rapid translation for testing
431 in LAM patients. Importantly, our employed HDAC inhibitors exhibit selective cytotoxicity in
432 an mTORC1-dependent manner, suggesting generalizable efficacy to mTORC1-driven
433 malignancies. Of note, cutaneous T cell lymphoma cells have been observed to exhibit mTORC1
434 hyperactivation compared to matched normal controls (36).

435 In this work, we used equivalent HDAC inhibitor concentrations for *in vitro* and *in vivo*
436 experiments; these concentrations were well-below dose-limiting toxicities in zebrafish (Fig.
437 S6E). However, a critical outstanding question is whether the concentrations employed are
438 physiologically attainable in humans. Pharmacokinetic studies of SAHA, SB939, and LBH589 in
439 humans have demonstrated micromolar serum concentrations are achievable (37–39). In fact, the
440 original pre-clinical work which formed the foundation for testing SAHA as a treatment in
441 cutaneous T cell lymphoma used the drug *in vitro* at micromolar concentrations (40). Thus, we
442 anticipate drug concentrations necessary to elicit a therapeutic effect are achievable in patients
443 with LAM. We note that while LBH589 demonstrated a therapeutic effect *in vitro*, drug efficacy
444 was not maintained upon *in vivo* testing, possibly due to altered bioavailability in the zebrafish.
445 While SAHA and SB939 demonstrated *in vivo* efficacy, the majority of parameters assessed
446 demonstrated mTORC1-dependency, similar to *in vitro*. Many LAM patients are on a chronic
447 regime of rapamycin; thus, it is likely that clinical trials would require short-term withdrawal of
448 rapamycin and acute treatment with HDAC inhibitors to elicit a therapeutic effect. Alternatively,
449 these therapeutics may provide a benefit for LAM patients who are not currently treated with
450 rapamycin, whether due to mild disease, intolerance, or resistance.

451 Our three-dimensional screening approach permitted the identification of many
452 compounds with invasion modulatory capabilities. We encourage further mining of these data to
453 uncover additional novel classes of therapeutics which modulate invasion and/or exert selectivity
454 cytotoxic effects (Table S3B-C). As one example, we identified ATP-competitive inhibitors of
455 mTOR to increase cellular invasion (Fig. 5D-F, S5E-G). This is of clinical significance and
456 requires further investigation, considering this class of therapeutics is undergoing investigation in
457 a broad range of oncogenic conditions (29).

458 Throughout our study, we note both genotype (loss of *TSC2*) and culture substrate (3D
459 hydrogel) contribute to modelling features of LAM. Importantly, hydrogel culture potentiated
460 differential mTORC1-signalling between WT and *TSC2*^{-/-} cells, reinforcing a physiologically
461 relevant environment in which mTORC1-dependent phenotypes can be identified (Fig 2, S2).
462 However, we also note a variety of LAM features in our cellular models that exist independently
463 from loss of *TSC2*. For example, cells isolated from both WT and *TSC2*^{-/-} teratomas are equally
464 invasive, present matching ACTA2⁺/PMEL⁺ profiles, and secrete similar levels of VEGF-D.
465 Indeed, similar observations of LAM features in WT cells have been noted in a neural crest cell
466 model (14). These data suggest perhaps, while loss of *TSC2* is critical for disease pathogenesis,
467 the hallmark features of the putative “LAM cell” may already exist in a physiological, if not
468 transient, context (e.g., during development, injury repair and inflammation). Critical
469 consideration of the cell context is essential, even while employing isogenic comparisons, as
470 different cell types exhibit distinct therapeutic vulnerabilities (14).

471 In summary, we have identified HDAC inhibitors as anti-invasive and selectively
472 cytotoxic towards *TSC2*^{-/-} cells *in vitro* and *in vivo*. While we have investigated three pan-HDAC
473 inhibitors as potential candidates, our data points towards SAHA as the most efficacious against
474 *TSC2*^{-/-} cells while possessing the most favourable toxicity profile. On the path towards clinical
475 translation, we anticipate testing of these compounds in diverse disease models. By validating
476 compounds with orthogonal tools and techniques, we may elevate the most promising
477 therapeutic for clinical trials.

478 MATERIALS AND METHODS

479 Study design

480 The objective of this research was to assess the LAM disease modelling capabilities of
481 newly developed tissue-engineered cell models, and subsequently employ these models to
482 identify novel therapeutic compounds. We conducted a 3D drug screen, and based on the
483 acquired data, formulated and tested the following hypothesis: HDAC inhibitors are anti-invasive
484 and selectively cytotoxic towards *TSC2*^{-/-} cells. We employed a combination of *in vitro* and *in*
485 *vivo* tools to test this hypothesis. Drug screen data was analyzed in a blinded, unbiased manner,
486 and independently by two different researchers using distinct methods. Animal studies were
487 conducted and analyzed in a double-blinded, randomized, placebo-controlled manner to generate
488 the highest quality pre-clinical evidence. Blinding was achieved by codification of an
489 investigator uninvolved in the experiments performed. A variety of experimental tools were
490 employed to interrogate this hypothesis, described in subsequent Methods and in the
491 Supplementary Materials and Methods. All reagents used and concentrations employed (if
492 relevant) are reported in Supplementary Materials and Methods.

493 Sample sizes for both *in vitro* and *in vivo* studies were determined according to field-
494 specific conventions. Power analysis was not employed. Data collection was not stopped
495 prematurely, and every experimental replicate was analyzed. All data points were included in the
496 data presentation; outliers were only excluded if there was definitive empirical evidence of
497 technical error and noted as such in the figure legend. Experiments were repeated at least three
498 times unless otherwise noted, with replicates collected at separate points in time and under
499 independent conditions. RNA-seq data is accessible at the Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO)
500 repository with accession GSE179044.

501

502 **Cell derivation and maintenance culture**

503 LAM cell models were established via a previously reported *in vivo* differentiation
504 protocol of human pluripotent stem cells (23). Briefly, we injected hPSCs into NSG mice to form
505 teratomas, which were then explanted and expanded in smooth muscle-cell enriching conditions
506 (Fig. S1A). We used a previously reported pair of mCherry⁺ WT and genome-engineered *TSC2*^{-/-}
507 hPSCs for establishment of isogenic lines (14). Maintenance cultures were propagated on plastic
508 containing a thin layer of Matrigel at 37°C, 5% CO₂. hPSCs were cultured in Essential 8 medium
509 and passaged in clumps by EDTA incubation, followed by cell scraping and wide-pore pipette
510 transfer. LAM cells were cultured on Matrigel in Medium 231 containing Smooth Muscle
511 Growth Supplement and passaged by 0.05% Trypsin as single cell suspensions.

512

513 **Hydrogel culture**

514 Hydrogel culture was conducted according to a previously established protocol (18).
515 Briefly, a hyaluronic acid polymer backbone was derivatized with methylfuran motifs
516 (confirmed by ¹H NMR) and conjugated to bismaleimide-terminated vitronectin and collagen-I-
517 derived peptides, synthesized in house. Hydrogel viscoelasticity was increased by incorporation
518 of methylcellulose derivatized with reactive thiol groups. Chemically synthesized hydrogel
519 components were mixed and directly added to culture plates (384-well format) to gel at 37°C for
520 3 hours. Following gelation, wells were hydrated with PBS and then subjected to three media
521 washes interspaced with incubations at 37°C for 45 mins. LAM cells were then dissociated,
522 added to plates containing hydrogel, and centrifuged for 3 min. at 10g to achieve immediate
523 contact with the hydrogel.

524

525 **Cell treatments and live cell staining**

526 All compound treatments were conducted for 72 hours unless otherwise stated. See
527 Supplementary Materials and Methods for 3D screen design, implementation, and analysis. Live
528 cell imaging dyes (Hoechst, SyTOX, Annexin V, Cleaved Caspase 3) were incubated for 30 min.
529 prior to imaging. Dyes were added as 10X concentrates in PBS; Annexin V diluent also
530 contained 2.5mM CaCl₂. To avoid cell detachment in the miniaturized well format, live imaging
531 dyes were not washed prior to imaging; this did not impact image acquisition as dyes are
532 minimally fluorescent unless bound to the target molecule.

533

534 **Microscopy**

535 We employed a high content imager (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Arrayscan VTI) to
536 acquire multi-well and multi-planar images. Whole-well images (384-well plate format) of cells
537 invading through hydrogel, stained with live cell dyes, were acquired by widefield microscopy
538 with 40µm interval z-stacks. Unstained cells were imaged using a brightfield module. Tiled
539 images of cells grown and stained on plastic were also acquired by high content widefield
540 microscopy. Rodent subcutaneous xenografts were visualized by *in vivo* imaging (PerkinElmer,
541 IVIS®). Zebrafish larvae xenografts were imaged by epifluorescence widefield microscopy
542 (Zeiss, AxioObserver 7). Image analysis methods are reported in Supplementary Materials and
543 Methods.

544

545 **Animal studies**

546 All animal experiments were conducted with approval from the University of Ottawa
547 Animal Care Committee (Protocols #OHRI1666 and #CHEOe-3171), in accordance with the
548 Canadian Council on Animal Care Standards and the Province of Ontario's Animals for
549 Research Act. NSG mice (Jackson Laboratory) were maintained in sterile housing conditions and
550 fed autoclaved chow and water ad libitum. Adult *casper* (41) zebrafish (a gift from Dr. Leonard
551 Zon, Boston Children's Hospital, Boston, MA) were maintained in a recirculating commercial
552 housing system (Aquatic Habitats, now Pentair) at 28°C in 14h:10h light:dark conditions in the
553 aquatics facility at the University of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON. Adult *casper* zebrafish were bred
554 according to standard protocol (42), and embryos were collected and grown in E3 medium (5mM
555 NaCl, 0.17mM KCl, 0.33mM CaCl₂, 0.33mM MgSO₄) at 28°C in 10cm Petri dishes until the
556 desired time point. Embryos were cleaned and provided with new media every 24hrs. See
557 Supplementary Materials and Methods for additional experimental details.

558

559 **Statistical analysis**

560 All figures are presented with individual data points (where graphically appropriate), with
561 measures of central tendency and error to be mean and standard deviation, respectively, unless
562 otherwise stated. Data pre-processing, statistical tests employed, sample number, and measured
563 of central tendency and spread are reported in the figure legends. Two-sided tests were
564 employed, and significance was attributed when $p < 0.05$. All analyses were of data from three
565 independent experiments without removal of statistical outliers. Statistical tests employed were
566 parametric except for analyses of zebrafish invasion data, where a non-normal distribution was
567 observed. Calculation of drug screen statistics (e.g., z-scores, selectivity scores) are described in
568 the Supplementary Materials and Methods.

569 **LIST OF SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS**

570

571 Supplementary Materials and Methods

572

573 Fig. S1. Hydrogel culture of stem cell-derived disease models exhibits features of LAM.

574

575 Fig. S2. Hydrogel culture potentiates differential mTORC1-signalling between WT and TSC2^{-/-}
576 cells.

577

578 Fig. S3. Three-dimensional drug screen identifies HDAC inhibitors as anti-invasive and
579 selectively cytotoxic towards TSC2^{-/-} LAM cells.

580

581 Fig. S4. Three safe-in-human HDAC inhibitors induce mTORC1-dependent selective
582 cytotoxicity exclusively in hydrogel culture.

583

584 Fig. S5. HDAC inhibitors attenuate cell invasion independent of cytotoxicity while mTOR
585 inhibitors potentiate the invasion phenotype.

586

587 Fig. S6. HDAC inhibitors are anti-invasive and selectively cytotoxic towards TSC2^{-/-} cells
588 xenotransplanted into zebrafish.

589

590 Table S1. Differential gene expression analysis of bulk RNA-seq data, untreated samples only.

591

592 Table S2. GO term enrichment analysis of DEG lists.

593

594 Table S3. Three-dimensional drug screen raw data.

595

596 Table S4. Enrichment results via adaptation of GSEA.

597

598 Table S5. ElionTM structure-based compound analysis.

599

600 Movie S1. Brightfield Z-stack of WT invading through the hydrogel, counterstained with

601 Hoechst.

602

603 Movie S2. Brightfield Z-stack of *TSC2*^{-/-} invading through the hydrogel, counterstained with

604 Hoechst.

605 **REFERENCES**

- 606 1. A. M. Taveira-DaSilva, J. Moss, Clinical features, epidemiology, and therapy of
607 lymphangiomyomatosis, *Clin Epidemiol* **7**, 249–257 (2015).
- 608 2. J. Moss, N. A. Avila, P. M. Barnes, R. A. Litzenger, J. Bechtel, P. G. Brooks, C. J. Hedin,
609 S. Hunsberger, A. S. Kristof, Prevalence and Clinical Characteristics of
610 Lymphangiomyomatosis (LAM) in Patients with Tuberous Sclerosis Complex, *Am J*
611 *Respir Crit Care Med* **164**, 669–671 (2001).
- 612 3. X. Zhe, L. Schuger, Combined Smooth Muscle and Melanocytic Differentiation in
613 Lymphangiomyomatosis, *J Histochem Cytochem.* **52**, 1537–1542 (2004).
- 614 4. G. F. Abbott, M. L. Rosado-de-Christenson, A. A. Frazier, T. J. Franks, R. D. Pugatch, J. R.
615 Galvin, From the archives of the AFIP: lymphangiomyomatosis: radiologic-pathologic
616 correlation, *Radiographics* **25**, 803–828 (2005).
- 617 5. S. C. Chu, K. Horiba, J. Usuki, N. A. Avila, C. C. Chen, W. D. Travis, V. J. Ferrans, J. Moss,
618 Comprehensive Evaluation of 35 Patients With Lymphangiomyomatosis, *Chest* **115**,
619 1041–1052 (1999).
- 620 6. T. Urban, R. Lazor, J. Lacronique, M. Murrin, S. Labrune, D. Valeyre, J. F. Cordier,
621 Pulmonary lymphangiomyomatosis. A study of 69 patients. Groupe d'Etudes et de
622 Recherche sur les Maladies "Orphelines" Pulmonaires (GERM"O"P)., *Medicine (Baltimore)*
623 **78**, 321–337 (1999).
- 624 7. E. P. Henske, F. X. McCormack, Lymphangiomyomatosis — a wolf in sheep's clothing, *J*
625 *Clin Invest* **122**, 3807–3816 (2012).

- 626 8. A. M. Taveira-DaSilva, O. Hathaway, M. Stylianou, J. Moss, Changes in lung function and
627 chyloous effusions in patients with lymphangioleiomyomatosis treated with sirolimus, *Ann.*
628 *Intern. Med.* **154**, 797–805, W-292–293 (2011).
- 629 9. J. Bee, S. Fuller, S. Miller, S. R. Johnson, Lung function response and side effects to
630 rapamycin for lymphangioleiomyomatosis: a prospective national cohort study, *Thorax* **73**,
631 369–375 (2018).
- 632 10. J. Yao, A. M. Taveira-DaSilva, A. M. Jones, P. Julien-Williams, M. Stylianou, J. Moss,
633 Sustained effects of sirolimus on lung function and cystic lung lesions in
634 lymphangioleiomyomatosis, *Am. J. Respir. Crit. Care Med.* **190**, 1273–1282 (2014).
- 635 11. F. X. McCormack, Y. Inoue, J. Moss, L. G. Singer, C. Strange, K. Nakata, A. F. Barker, J. T.
636 Chapman, M. L. Brantly, J. M. Stocks, K. K. Brown, J. P. I. Lynch, H. J. Goldberg, L. R.
637 Young, B. W. Kinder, G. P. Downey, E. J. Sullivan, T. V. Colby, R. T. McKay, M. M.
638 Cohen, L. Korbee, A. M. Taveira-DaSilva, H.-S. Lee, J. P. Krischer, B. C. Trapnell, Efficacy
639 and Safety of Sirolimus in Lymphangioleiomyomatosis.
640 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1056/NEJMoa1100391> (2011), doi:10.1056/NEJMoa1100391.
- 641 12. J. J. Bissler, F. X. McCormack, L. R. Young, J. M. Elwing, G. Chuck, J. M. Leonard, V. J.
642 Schmithorst, T. Laor, A. S. Brody, J. Bean, S. Salisbury, D. N. Franz, Sirolimus for
643 Angiomyolipoma in Tuberous Sclerosis Complex or Lymphangioleiomyomatosis, *N Engl J*
644 *Med* **358**, 140–151 (2008).
- 645 13. E. A. Goncharova, D. A. Goncharov, A. Eszterhas, D. S. Hunter, M. K. Glassberg, R. S.
646 Yeung, C. L. Walker, D. Noonan, D. J. Kwiatkowski, M. M. Chou, R. A. Panettieri, V. P.
647 Krymskaya, Tuberin regulates p70 S6 kinase activation and ribosomal protein S6

- 648 phosphorylation. A role for the TSC2 tumor suppressor gene in pulmonary
649 lymphangioliomyomatosis (LAM), *J. Biol. Chem.* **277**, 30958–30967 (2002).
- 650 14. S. P. Delaney, L. M. Julian, A. Pietrobon, J. Yockell-Lelièvre, C. Doré, T. T. Wang, V. C.
651 Doyon, A. Raymond, D. A. Patten, A. S. Kristof, M.-E. Harper, H. Sun, W. L. Stanford,
652 Human pluripotent stem cell modeling of tuberous sclerosis complex reveals lineage-specific
653 therapeutic vulnerabilities, *bioRxiv* , 683359 (2020).
- 654 15. D. J. Kwiatkowski, Animal Models of Lymphangioliomyomatosis (LAM) and Tuberous
655 Sclerosis Complex (TSC), *Lymphatic Research and Biology* **8**, 51–57 (2010).
- 656 16. S. R. Caliani, J. A. Burdick, A practical guide to hydrogels for cell culture, *Nature Methods*
657 **13**, 405–414 (2016).
- 658 17. J. A. Burdick, G. D. Prestwich, Hyaluronic Acid Hydrogels for Biomedical Applications,
659 *Advanced Materials* **23**, H41–H56 (2011).
- 660 18. R. Y. Tam, J. Yockell-Lelièvre, L. J. Smith, L. M. Julian, A. E. G. Baker, C. Choey, M. S.
661 Hasim, J. Dimitroulakos, W. L. Stanford, M. S. Shoichet, Rationally Designed 3D Hydrogels
662 Model Invasive Lung Diseases Enabling High-Content Drug Screening, *Advanced Materials*
663 **31**, 1806214 (2019).
- 664 19. R. Edmondson, J. J. Broglie, A. F. Adcock, L. Yang, Three-dimensional cell culture systems
665 and their applications in drug discovery and cell-based biosensors., *Assay Drug Dev Technol*
666 **12**, 207–218 (2014).
- 667 20. A. E. G. Baker, L. C. Bahlmann, R. Y. Tam, J. C. Liu, A. N. Ganesh, N. Mitrousis, R.
668 Marcellus, M. Spears, J. M. S. Bartlett, D. W. Cescon, G. D. Bader, M. S. Shoichet,
669 Benchmarking to the Gold Standard: Hyaluronan-Oxime Hydrogels Recapitulate Xenograft

- 670 Models with In Vitro Breast Cancer Spheroid Culture, *Advanced Materials* **31**, 1901166
671 (2019).
- 672 21. C. A. MacRae, R. T. Peterson, Zebrafish as tools for drug discovery, *Nature Reviews Drug*
673 *Discovery* **14**, 721–731 (2015).
- 674 22. D. C. Swinney, J. Anthony, How were new medicines discovered?, *Nature Reviews Drug*
675 *Discovery* **10**, 507–519 (2011).
- 676 23. L. M. Julian, S. P. Delaney, Y. Wang, A. A. Goldberg, C. Doré, J. Yockell-Lelièvre, R. Y.
677 Tam, K. Giannikou, F. McMurray, M. S. Shoichet, M.-E. Harper, E. P. Henske, D. J.
678 Kwiatkowski, T. N. Darling, J. Moss, A. S. Kristof, W. L. Stanford, Human Pluripotent Stem
679 Cell–Derived TSC2-Haploinsufficient Smooth Muscle Cells Recapitulate Features of
680 Lymphangi leiomyomatosis, *Cancer Res* (2017), doi:10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-17-0925.
- 681 24. M. Guo, J. J. Yu, A. K. Perl, K. A. Wikenheiser-Brokamp, M. Riccetti, E. Y. Zhang, P.
682 Sudha, M. Adam, A. Potter, E. J. Koprass, K. Giannikou, S. S. Potter, S. Sherman, S. R.
683 Hammes, D. J. Kwiatkowski, J. A. Whitsett, F. X. McCormack, Y. Xu, Single Cell
684 Transcriptomic Analysis Identifies a Unique Pulmonary Lymphangi leiomyomatosis Cell,
685 *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine* (2020),
686 doi:10.1164/rccm.201912-2445OC.
- 687 25. H. Zhang, G. Cicchetti, H. Onda, H. B. Koon, K. Asrican, N. Bajraszewski, F. Vazquez, C.
688 L. Carpenter, D. J. Kwiatkowski, Loss of Tsc1/Tsc2 activates mTOR and disrupts PI3K-Akt
689 signaling through downregulation of PDGFR, *J Clin Invest* **112**, 1223–1233 (2003).
- 690 26. A. Giese, M. A. Loo, N. Tran, D. Haskett, S. W. Coons, M. E. Berens, Dichotomy of
691 astrocytoma migration and proliferation, *Int. J. Cancer* **67**, 275–282 (1996).

- 692 27. A. J. Valvezan, B. D. Manning, Molecular logic of mTORC1 signalling as a metabolic
693 rheostat, *Nat Metab* **1**, 321–333 (2019).
- 694 28. D. S. Schrupp, Cytotoxicity Mediated by Histone Deacetylase Inhibitors in Cancer Cells:
695 Mechanisms and Potential Clinical Implications, *Clin Cancer Res* **15**, 3947–3957 (2009).
- 696 29. A. S. Alzahrani, PI3K/Akt/mTOR inhibitors in cancer: At the bench and bedside, *Seminars*
697 *in Cancer Biology* **59**, 125–132 (2019).
- 698 30. A. L. Fridman, M. A. Tainsky, Critical pathways in cellular senescence and immortalization
699 revealed by gene expression profiling, *Oncogene* **27**, 5975–5987 (2008).
- 700 31. B. Adane, G. Alexe, B. K. A. Seong, D. Lu, E. E. Hwang, D. Hnisz, C. A. Lareau, L. Ross,
701 S. Lin, F. S. Dela Cruz, M. Richardson, A. S. Weintraub, S. Wang, A. B. Iniguez, N. V.
702 Dharia, A. S. Conway, A. L. Robichaud, B. Tanenbaum, J. M. Krill-Burger, F. Vazquez, M.
703 Schenone, J. N. Berman, A. L. Kung, S. A. Carr, M. J. Aryee, R. A. Young, B. D. Crompton,
704 K. Stegmaier, STAG2 loss rewires oncogenic and developmental programs to promote
705 metastasis in Ewing sarcoma, *Cancer Cell* **39**, 827-844.e10 (2021).
- 706 32. A. M. El-Naggar, C. J. Veinotte, H. Cheng, T. G. P. Grunewald, G. L. Negri, S. P.
707 Somasekharan, D. P. Corkery, F. Tirode, J. Mathers, D. Khan, A. H. Kyle, J. H. Baker, N. E.
708 LePard, S. McKinney, S. Hajee, M. Bosiljic, G. Leprivier, C. E. Tognon, A. I. Minchinton,
709 K. L. Bennewith, O. Delattre, Y. Wang, G. Dellaire, J. N. Berman, P. H. Sorensen,
710 Translational Activation of HIF1 α by YB-1 Promotes Sarcoma Metastasis, *Cancer Cell* **27**,
711 682–697 (2015).
- 712 33. F. Yang, S. Sun, C. Wang, M. Haas, S. Yeo, J.-L. Guan, Targeted therapy for mTORC1-
713 driven tumours through HDAC inhibition by exploiting innate vulnerability of mTORC1
714 hyper-activation, *British Journal of Cancer* , 1–12 (2020).

- 715 34. B. S. Mann, J. R. Johnson, M. H. Cohen, R. Justice, R. Pazdur, FDA approval summary:
716 vorinostat for treatment of advanced primary cutaneous T-cell lymphoma, *Oncologist* **12**,
717 1247–1252 (2007).
- 718 35. L. A. Raedler, Farydak (Panobinostat): First HDAC Inhibitor Approved for Patients with
719 Relapsed Multiple Myeloma, *Am Health Drug Benefits* **9**, 84–87 (2016).
- 720 36. T. E. Witzig, C. Reeder, J. J. Han, B. LaPlant, M. Stenson, H. W. Tun, W. Macon, S. M.
721 Ansell, T. M. Habermann, D. J. Inwards, I. N. Micallef, P. B. Johnston, L. F. Porrata, J. P.
722 Colgan, S. Markovic, G. S. Nowakowski, M. Gupta, The mTORC1 inhibitor everolimus has
723 antitumor activity in vitro and produces tumor responses in patients with relapsed T-cell
724 lymphoma, *Blood* **126**, 328–335 (2015).
- 725 37. E. H. Rubin, N. G. B. Agrawal, E. J. Friedman, P. Scott, K. E. Mazina, L. Sun, L. Du, J. L.
726 Ricker, S. R. Frankel, K. M. Gottesdiener, J. A. Wagner, M. Iwamoto, A Study to Determine
727 the Effects of Food and Multiple Dosing on the Pharmacokinetics of Vorinostat Given Orally
728 to Patients with Advanced Cancer, *Clin Cancer Res* **12**, 7039–7045 (2006).
- 729 38. F. Giles, T. Fischer, J. Cortes, G. Garcia-Manero, J. Beck, F. Ravandi, E. Masson, P. Rae, G.
730 Laird, S. Sharma, H. Kantarjian, M. Dugan, M. Albitar, K. Bhalla, A Phase I Study of
731 Intravenous LBH589, a Novel Cinnamic Hydroxamic Acid Analogue Histone Deacetylase
732 Inhibitor, in Patients with Refractory Hematologic Malignancies, *Clin Cancer Res* **12**, 4628–
733 4635 (2006).
- 734 39. W. P. Yong, B. C. Goh, R. A. Soo, H. C. Toh, K. Ethirajulu, J. Wood, V. Novotny-Diermayr,
735 S. C. Lee, W. L. Yeo, D. Chan, D. Lim, E. Seah, R. Lim, J. Zhu, Phase I and
736 pharmacodynamic study of an orally administered novel inhibitor of histone deacetylases,
737 SB939, in patients with refractory solid malignancies, *Ann Oncol* **22**, 2516–2522 (2011).

- 738 40. C. Zhang, V. Richon, X. Ni, R. Talpur, M. Duvic, Selective Induction of Apoptosis by
739 Histone Deacetylase Inhibitor SAHA in Cutaneous T-Cell Lymphoma Cells: Relevance to
740 Mechanism of Therapeutic Action, *Journal of Investigative Dermatology* **125**, 1045–1052
741 (2005).
- 742 41. R. M. White, A. Sessa, C. Burke, T. Bowman, J. LeBlanc, C. Ceol, C. Bourque, M. Dovey,
743 W. Goessling, C. E. Burns, L. I. Zon, Transparent Adult Zebrafish as a Tool for In Vivo
744 Transplantation Analysis, *Cell Stem Cell* **2**, 183–189 (2008).
- 745 42. M. Westerfield, *THE Zebrafish Book a Guide for the Laboratory Use of Zebrafish Danio**.
- 746 43. A. Subramanian, P. Tamayo, V. K. Mootha, S. Mukherjee, B. L. Ebert, M. A. Gillette, A.
747 Paulovich, S. L. Pomeroy, T. R. Golub, E. S. Lander, J. P. Mesirov, Gene set enrichment
748 analysis: A knowledge-based approach for interpreting genome-wide expression profiles,
749 *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* **102**, 15545–15550 (2005).
- 750 44. D. P. Corkery, G. Dellaire, J. N. Berman, Leukaemia xenotransplantation in zebrafish –
751 chemotherapy response assay in vivo, *Br. J. Haematol.* **153**, 786–789 (2011).
- 752 45. H. M, T. C, S. Wl, M. P, Human melanoma cells transplanted into zebrafish proliferate,
753 migrate, produce melanin, form masses and stimulate angiogenesis in zebrafish.,
754 *Angiogenesis* **9**, 139–151 (2006).

755 **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

756 We thank Catherine Lawrence for her inspiration, members of our labs for continued insights,
757 the Ottawa Bioinformatics Core Facility (particularly Christopher Porter) for assistance in
758 processing RNA-seq data, and the Human Pluripotent Stem Cell Core Facility and Rima Al-awar
759 (Ontario Institute for Cancer Research) for the custom designed drug library.

760

761 **Funding:**

762 Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR) grant FRN-153188 (WLS)

763 LAM Foundation pilot grant LAM0123P01-17 (WLS)

764 Funds from Green Eggs and LAM (WLS and MSS)

765 CIHR Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship (AP)

766 CIHR Tier 1 Canada Research Chair Program in Integrative Stem Cell Biology (WLS)

767

768 **Author contributions:**

769 Conceptualization: AP, JYL, SPD, RYT, JNB, MSS, WLS

770 Methodology: AP, JYL, NM, LJS, NA, CX, NM, LMJ, RYT, MSS, WLS

771 Investigation: AP, JYL, NM, NA, NM, EL, AC, CD

772 Visualization: AP, JYL

773 Funding acquisition: MSS, WLS

774 Supervision: GM, LMJ, ASK, RYT, JNB, MSS, WLS

775 Writing – original draft: AP, WLS

776 Writing – review & editing: AP, JYL, NM, LJS, SPD, NA, CX, EL, AC, CD, GM, LMJ, ASK,

777 RYT, JNB, MSS, WLS

778

779 **Competing interests:** Authors declare that they have no competing interests.

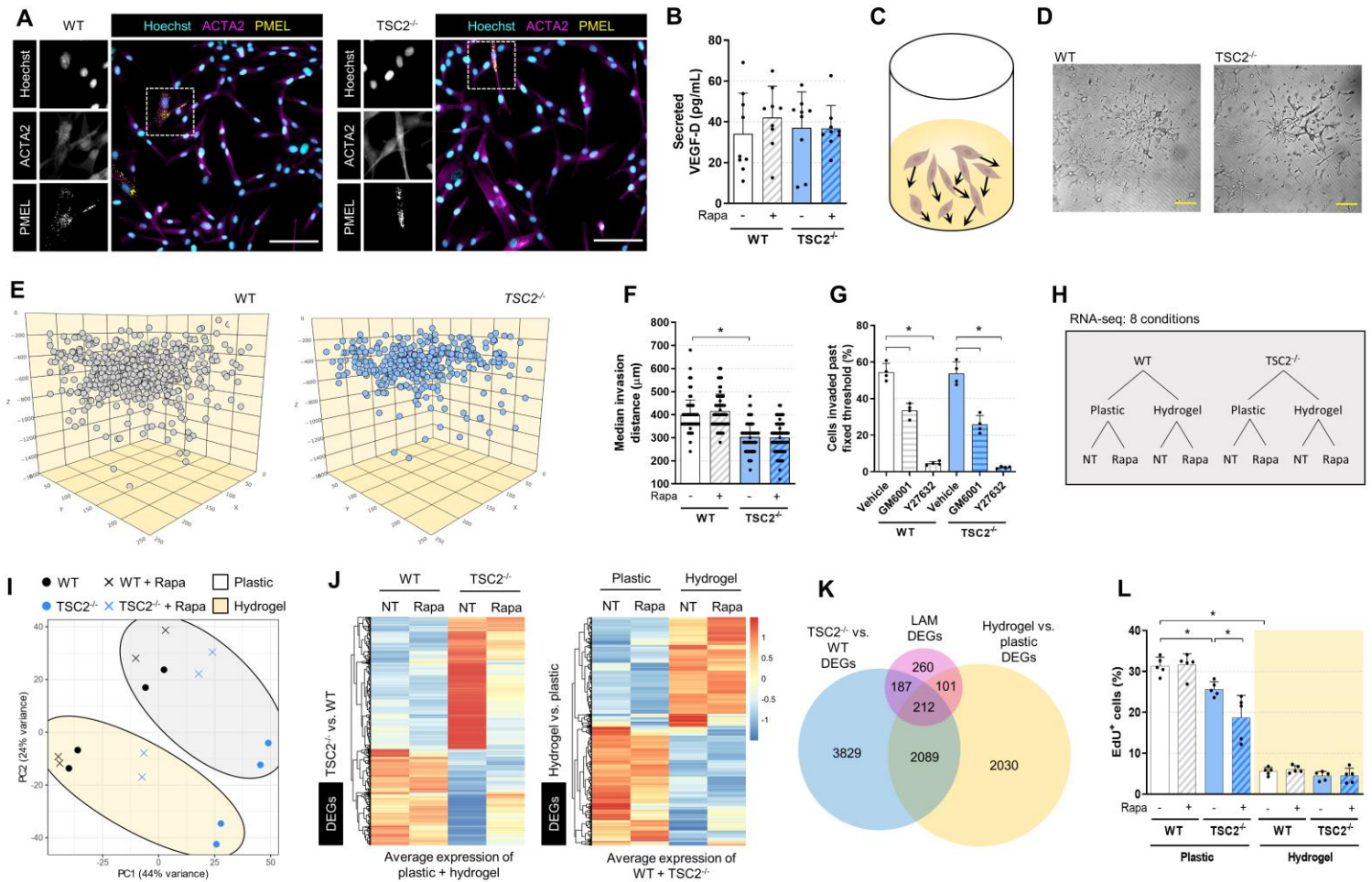
780

781 **Data and materials availability:** Processed data are available in the main text and the

782 supplementary materials. Raw RNA-seq data is accessible at the GEO repository with accession

783 GSE179044. Code written in house for data processing is available on request.

784 **FIGURES**



785 **Fig. 1. Hydrogel culture of stem cell-derived disease models exhibits features of LAM. (A)**

786 Representative immunofluorescence images of *WT* and *TSC2*^{-/-} cells. Inset showing punctate

787 PMEL and fibril ACTA2 staining. Scale bars of 100µM. **(B)** VEGF-D secreted into conditioned

788 media measured by ELISA, following 16hr incubation in serum-free media ± 20nM rapamycin

789 (mean ± SD; * = $p < 0.05$ by Student t-test; $n = 9-10$). **(C-E)** Visualization of LAM cell invasion

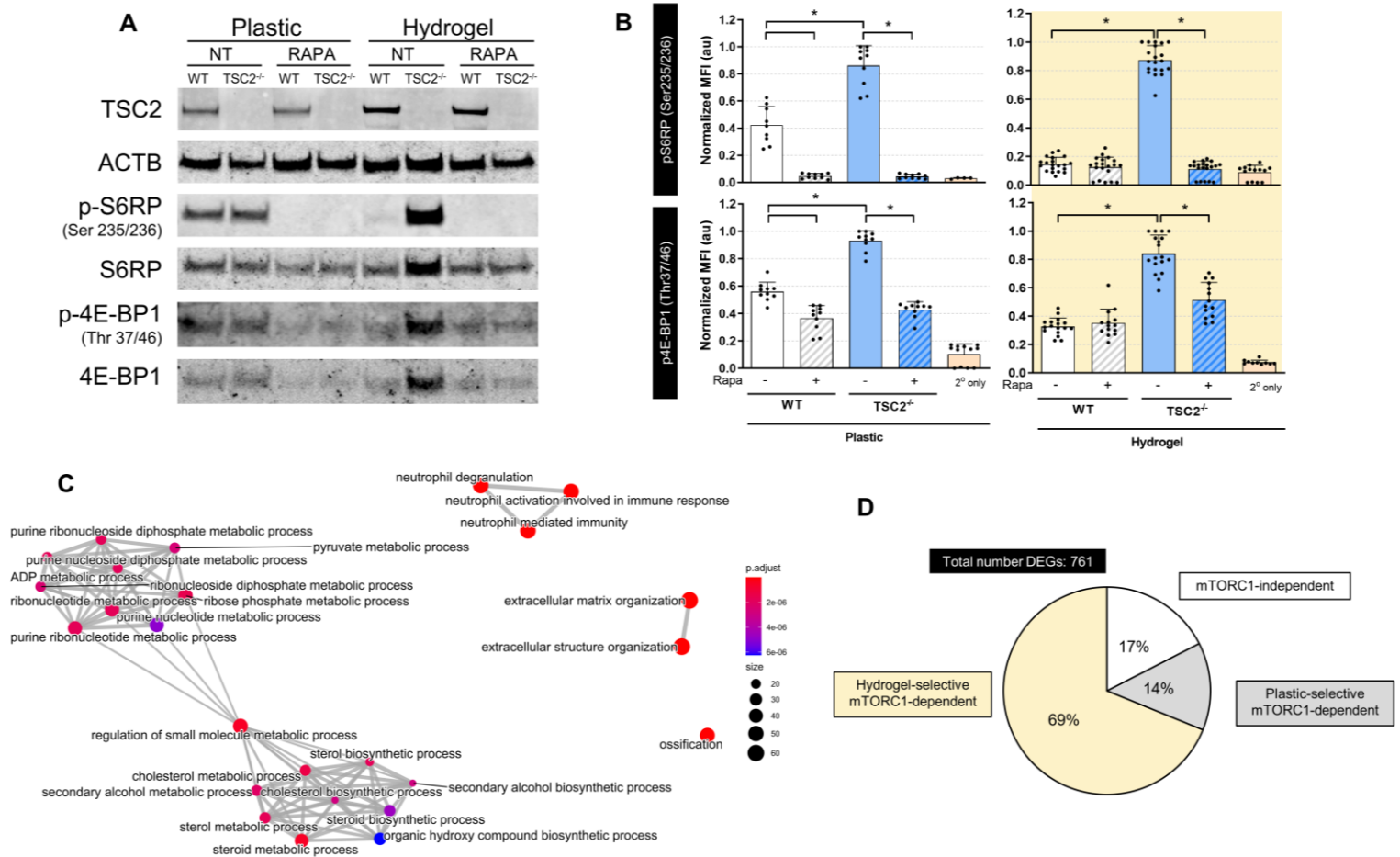
790 after three days in hydrogel culture, as **(C)** a schematic, **(D)** brightfield image of single Z plane,

791 scale bars of 250µm, and **(E)** computational reconstruction of cellular spatial positions. **(F)**

792 Median invasion distance of cellular populations plated on the hydrogel and cultured for three

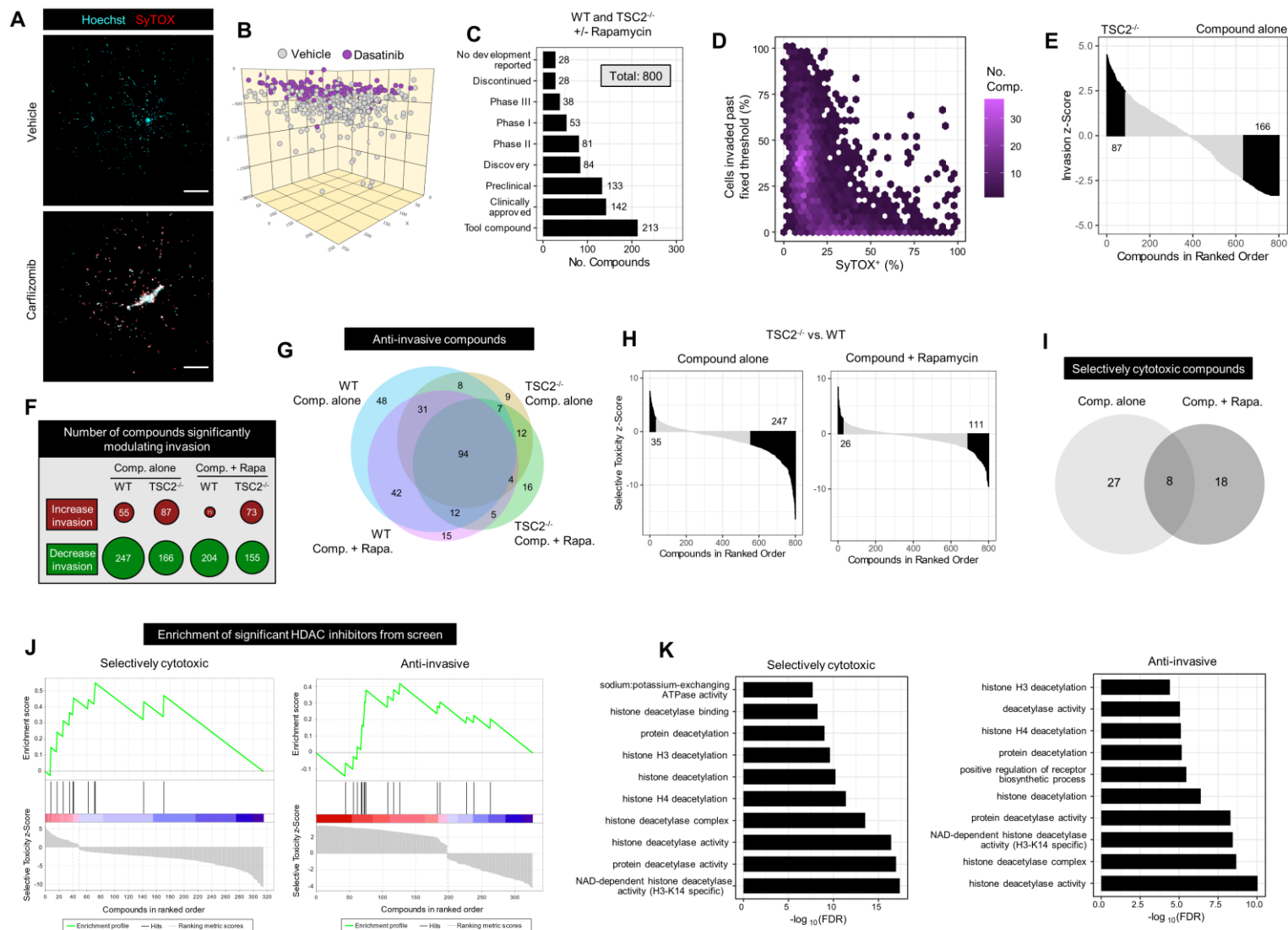
793 days ± 20nM rapamycin (mean ± SD; * = $p < 0.05$ by Student t-test; $n = 124$). **(G)** Percentage of

794 cells invaded past fixed threshold set by median invasion distance of genotype-matched vehicle
795 control. Cells were cultured and treated for three days (10 μ M GM6001, a pan-MMP inhibitor,
796 and 20 μ M Y27632, a ROCK inhibitor, mean \pm SD; * = $p < 0.05$ by Student t-test; n = 4). **(H)**
797 Schematic of the sample conditions tested in the bulk RNA-seq experiment. NT = no treatment,
798 Rapa = rapamycin treatment (20nM, 72 hrs). **(I)** Principal components analysis (PCA) of bulk
799 RNA-seq samples. **(J)** Heatmap and hierarchal clustering of differentially expressed genes
800 (DEGs) between *TSC2*^{-/-} and WT samples, and between hydrogel and plastic samples, while
801 controlling for the reciprocal covariate. Left panel: transcript expression for plastic and hydrogel
802 cultures were averaged. Right panel: transcript expression for WT and *TSC2*^{-/-} samples were
803 averaged. DEG analysis was performed with no treatment samples; genes noted as differentially
804 expressed if $FDR < 0.05$ and $|\log_2FC| > 1$. **(K)** Overlap in DEG between genotype and ECM
805 gene lists and LAM cell signature gene list (24). Genes noted as DE if $FDR < 0.05$. **(L)**
806 Percentage of EdU⁺ (proliferating) cells from 3-hour pulse (5 μ M), after three days cultured on
807 plastic or hydrogel \pm 20nM rapamycin (mean \pm SD; * = $p < 0.05$ by Student t-test; n = 5).



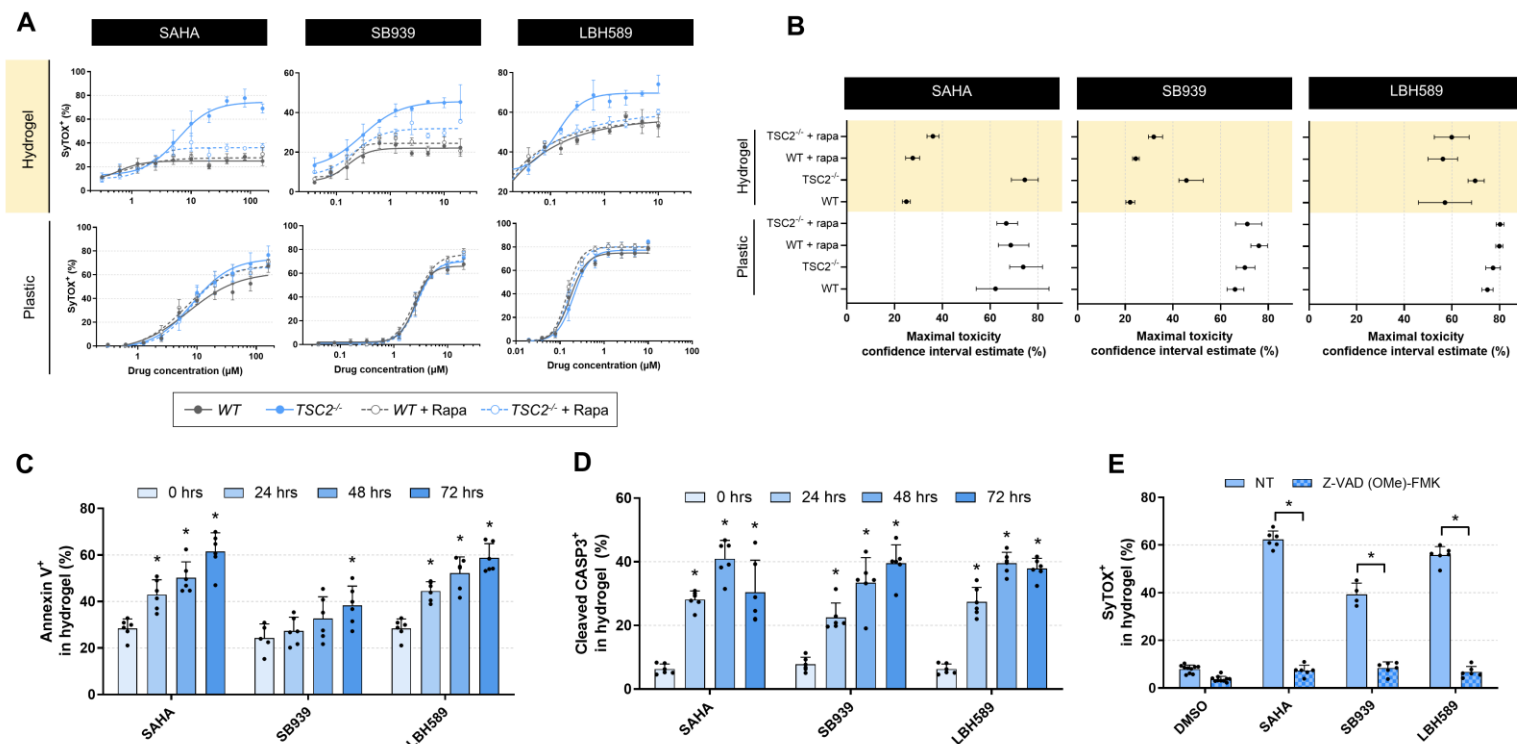
808 **Fig. 2. Hydrogel culture potentiates differential mTORC1-signalling between WT and**
 809 **TSC2^{-/-} cells. (A)** Low input Western blot of protein collected from cells cultured for three days
 810 on plastic or hydrogel ± 20nM rapamycin. NT = no treatment, Rapa = rapamycin treatment. **(B)**
 811 Quantification of immunofluorescence values reported in normalized (scaled by replicate
 812 maximum value) mean fluorescence intensity. Each point indicates the mean fluorescence
 813 intensity from a well of cells cultured on hydrogel or plastic for three days ± 20nM rapamycin.
 814 Secondary only values are determined from wells probed with fluorescent secondary antibody
 815 only (mean ± SD; * = p < 0.05 by Student t-test; n = 9-20). **(C)** Network analysis of GO terms
 816 enriched in the list of DEGs found significant (FDR < 0.05) in the interaction between genotype
 817 and culture substrate. The 25 most significantly enriched terms are plotted. **(D)** Classification of

818 DEGs according to pattern of expression across genotypes, ECM condition, and in the presence
819 or absence of rapamycin. Gene clusters and classification scheme shown in Fig. S2B-C).

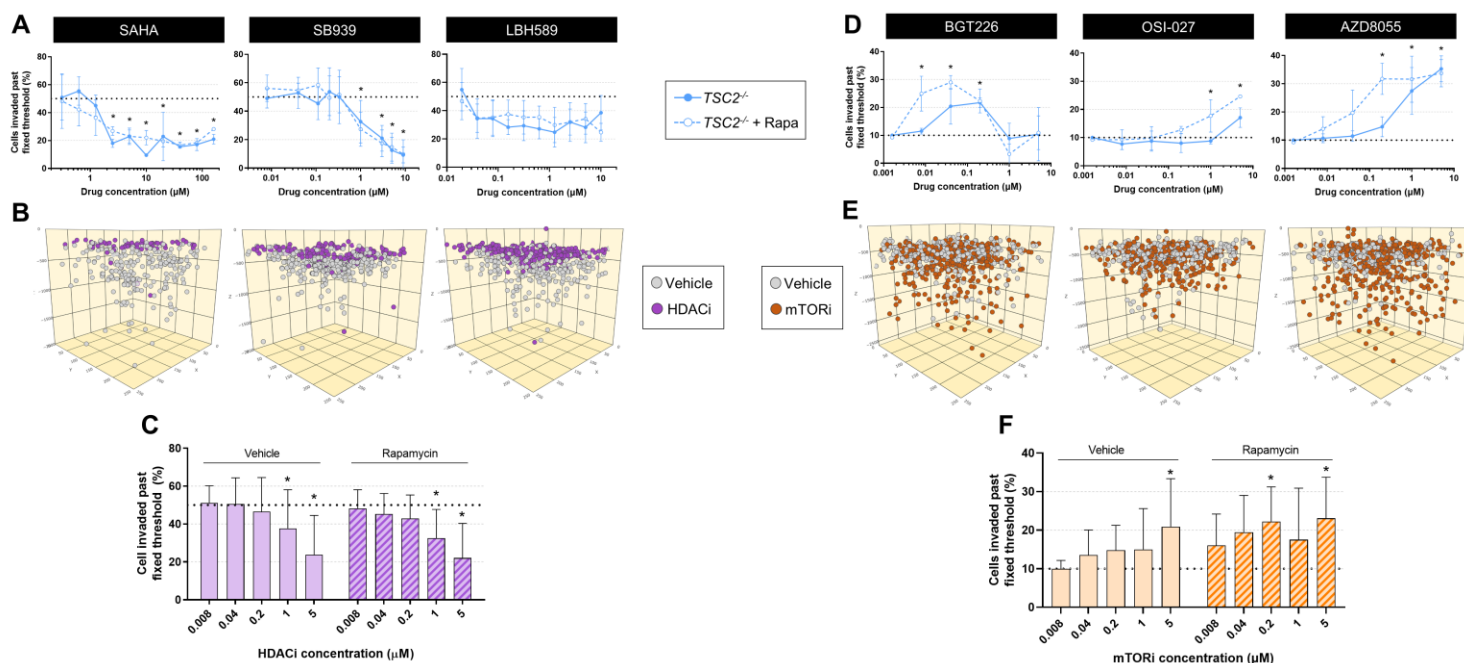


820 **Fig. 3. Three-dimensional drug screen identifies HDAC inhibitors as anti-invasive and**
 821 **selectively cytotoxic towards TSC2^{-/-} LAM cells. (A)** Representative maximum intensity
 822 projection image of TSC2^{-/-} cells in hydrogel culture for three days ± 200nM carfilzomib. Scale
 823 bars of 250µm. **(B)** Computational reconstruction of cellular spatial positions following three-
 824 day hydrogel culture of TSC2^{-/-} cells ± 40nM dasatinib. Note that treated and untreated were in
 825 separate wells; cells were plotted in the same volume for ease of visualizing relative distances
 826 travelled. **(C)** Highest development status reported for the 800 compounds contained in the
 827 curated kinase inhibitor and tool compound libraries. A 3D drug screen was conducted on WT

828 and *TSC2*^{-/-} cells following three-day treatment with 5 μ M compounds \pm 20nM rapamycin. **(D)**
829 Compound invasion modulation plotted against cytotoxicity, aggregating results across genotype
830 and rapamycin treatment. Fixed invasion threshold determined by median invasion distance of
831 untreated controls. Hexagonal plot employed to demonstrate compound densities. **(E)** Waterfall
832 plot of compound invasion z-scores in ranked order; positive values indicate invasion
833 potentiation, while negative values indicate invasion attenuation. Compounds conferring
834 statistically significant invasion modulation highlighted in black. Data presented for *TSC2*^{-/-}, no
835 rapamycin treatment condition. **(F)** Number of compounds significantly modulating invasion
836 (potentiating or attenuating) for each genotype in the presence of absence of 20nM rapamycin.
837 Bubble area proportional to number of statistically significant targets. **(G)** Overlap of compounds
838 identified as anti-invasive in each listed condition. **(H)** Waterfall plots of compound selective
839 toxicity z-scores in ranked order; positive values indicate increased cytotoxicity towards *TSC2*^{-/-}
840 cells, negative values indicate increased cytotoxicity towards WT cells. Compounds conferring
841 statistically significant selective cytotoxicity highlighted in black. **(I)** Overlap of compounds
842 identified to be selectivity cytotoxic towards *TSC2*^{-/-} cells, with or without 20nM rapamycin. **(J)**
843 Enrichment plot for compounds annotated to target HDACs, derived from an adapted
844 implementation of GSEA. Hits (black vertical lines) in the red region indicate compounds with a
845 favourable effect, hits in the blue region indicate compounds with an undesirable effect. **(K)** Top
846 10 most statistically significant GO terms. Analysis performed using targets identified as
847 statistically significantly enriched in screen data by ElionTM algorithm.

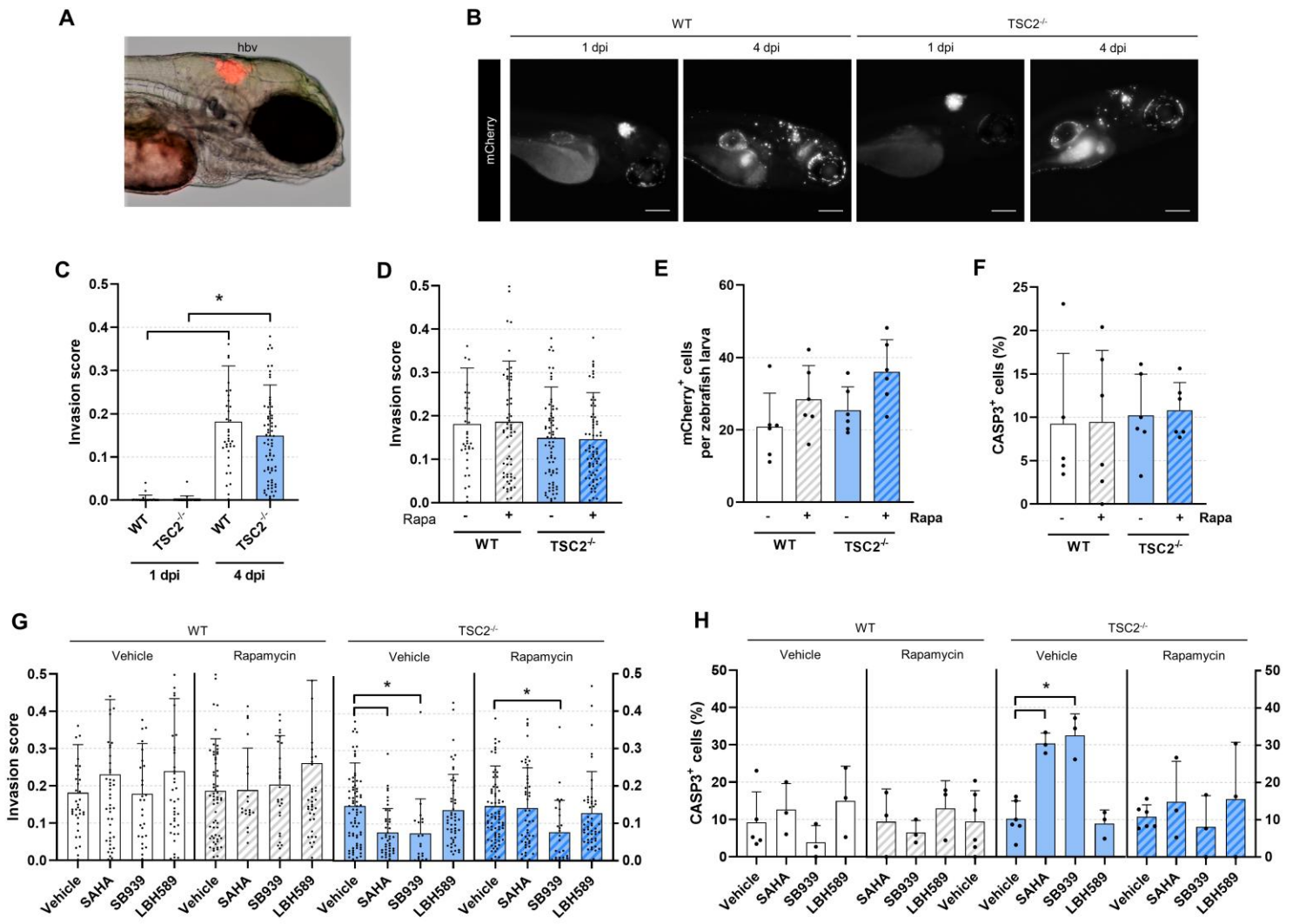


848 **Fig. 4. Three safe-in-human HDAC inhibitors induce mTORC1-dependent selective**
 849 **cytotoxicity exclusively in hydrogel culture. (A)** Dose-response cytotoxicity curves of cells
 850 treated with the indicated HDAC inhibitor for three days while cultured on plastic or hydrogel ±
 851 20nM rapamycin. Data fit via four-parameter logistic regression (mean ± SD; n = 3). **(B)**
 852 Confidence intervals of HDAC inhibitor maximal toxicity, estimated by four-parameter logistic
 853 regression models generated in A. **(C-D)** Quantification of *TSC2*^{-/-} cells positive for **(C)** Annexin
 854 V or **(D)** cleaved caspase 3, following three-day treatment with HDAC inhibitors in hydrogel
 855 (20μM SAHA, 5μM SB939, and 1μM LHB589, mean ± SD; * = p < 0.05 by ANOVA with
 856 Dunnett post-hoc comparison to 0 hrs; n = 6). **(E)** Quantification of *TSC2*^{-/-} cells positive for
 857 SyTOX following three-day HDAC inhibitor treatment (20μM SAHA, 5μM SB939, and 1μM
 858 LHB589) in hydrogel ± 25μM Z-VAD (OMe)-FMK (mean ± SD; * = p < 0.05 by Student t-test;
 859 n = 4-6).



860 **Fig. 5. HDAC inhibitors attenuate cell invasion independent of cytotoxicity while mTOR**
 861 **inhibitors potentiate the invasion phenotype.** (A) Live *TSC2*^{-/-} cells invaded past
 862 threshold set by median invasion distance of vehicle control, upon three-day HDAC inhibitor
 863 treatment ± 20nM rapamycin (mean ± SD; * = p < 0.05 by ANOVA with Dunnett post-hoc
 864 comparison to untreated; n = 3). (B) Computational reconstruction of live cell spatial positions
 865 upon three-day hydrogel culture of *TSC2*^{-/-} cells ± HDAC inhibitor (HDACi) treatment (5μM
 866 SAHA, 5μM SB939, 1μM LBH589). Note that treated and untreated cells were in separate
 867 wells; cells were plotted in the same volume for ease of visualizing relative distances travelled.
 868 (C) Aggregated effect of 11 HDAC inhibitors on *TSC2*^{-/-} live cell invasion ± 20nM rapamycin.
 869 Fixed threshold set by median invasion distance of vehicle control (mean ± SD; * = p < 0.05 by
 870 ANOVA with Dunnett post-hoc comparison to untreated; n = 33 via 11 HDACi, n = 3 each). (D)
 871 Live *TSC2*^{-/-} cells invaded past fixed threshold set by 90th percentile invasion distance of vehicle
 872 control, upon three-day mTOR inhibitor treatment ± 20nM rapamycin (mean ± SD; * = p < 0.05
 873 by ANOVA with Dunnett post-hoc comparison to untreated; n = 3). (E) Computational

874 reconstruction of live cell spatial positions upon three-day hydrogel culture of *TSC2*^{-/-} ± mTOR
875 inhibitor treatment (40nM BGT226, 5μM OSI-027, 5μM AZD8055). (F) Aggregated effect of 3
876 mTOR inhibitors (mTORi) on *TSC2*^{-/-} live cell invasion ± 20nM rapamycin. Fixed threshold set
877 by 90th percentile invasion distance of vehicle control (mean ± SD; * = p < 0.05 by ANOVA with
878 Dunnett post-hoc comparison to untreated; n = 9 via 3 mTORi, n = 3 each).



879 **Fig. 6. HDAC inhibitors are anti-invasive and selectively cytotoxic towards $TSC2^{-/-}$ cells**

880 **xenotransplanted into zebrafish.** (A) Representative phase contrast image of 1 day post-

881 injection (dpi) zebrafish larvae injected with $TSC2^{-/-}$ mCherry⁺ cells into the hindbrain ventricle

882 (hbv). (B) Representative images of zebrafish larvae injected with mCherry⁺ WT or $TSC2^{-/-}$ cells

883 into the hbv. Fish were imaged 1 and 4 dpi. Scale bars of 200 μ m. (C-D) Quantification of cell

884 invasion using automated invasion analysis. Images analyzed in (D) were taken 4 dpi following

885 three-day treatment \pm 20nM rapamycin (mean \pm SD; * = $p < 0.05$ by Mann-Whitney U test; n =

886 38 - 73). (E) Number of mCherry⁺ cells detected per zebrafish following whole larvae

887 dissociation at 4 dpi and analysis by flow cytometry. Samples were treated for three days \pm

888 20nM rapamycin. Each replicate is a pool of 15 – 20 zebrafish larvae (mean \pm SD; * = $p < 0.05$
889 by Student t-test; n = 6). **(F)** Percentage of CASP3⁺ cells in the mCherry⁺ population from whole
890 larvae dissociation at 4 dpi, following 3-day treatment \pm 20nM rapamycin. Each replicate is a
891 pool of 15 – 20 zebrafish larvae (mean \pm SD; * = $p < 0.05$ by Student t-test; n = 5 – 6). **(G-H)**
892 Effect of three-day HDAC inhibitor treatment (20 μ M SAHA, 5 μ M SB939, 1 μ M LBH589) \pm
893 20nM rapamycin. **(G)** Invasion scores calculated on images acquired 4dpi (mean \pm SD; * =
894 $p < 0.05$ by the Kruskal-Wallis test with Dunn’s post-hoc comparison to vehicle treated; n = 27 –
895 73). **(H)** Percentage of CASP3⁺ cells in the mCherry⁺ population from whole larvae dissociation
896 at 4 dpi. Each replicate is a pool of 15 – 20 zebrafish larvae (mean \pm SD; * = $p < 0.05$ by
897 ANOVA with Dunnett post-hoc comparison to vehicle treated; n = 3 – 6). Not all outliers in **(C-**
898 **D)** and **(G)** are visualized due to trimmed axes (although outliers were included in mean \pm SD
899 and the statistical calculation).

900
901
902
903
904
905
906
907
908
909
910
911
912
913
914
915
916
917
918
919
920
921
922
923
924
925
926
927
928
929
930
931
932
933
934
935
936
937
938

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

Three-dimensional drug screen identifies HDAC inhibitors as therapeutic agents in mTORC1-driven lymphangiomyomatosis

Authors: Adam Pietrobon^{1,2,3}, Julien Yockell-Lelièvre^{1,3}, Nicole Melong⁴, Laura J. Smith^{5,6,7}, Sean P. Delaney^{1,2,3}, Nadine Azzam⁴, Chang Xue^{6,7}, Nishanth Merwin⁸, Eric Lian^{1,2,3}, Alberto Camacho-Magallanes^{1,2,3}, Carole Doré¹, Gabriel Musso⁸, Lisa M. Julian⁹, Arnold S. Kristof¹⁰, Roger Y. Tam¹¹, Jason N. Berman^{2,4}, Molly S. Shoichet^{5,6,7,12}, William L. Stanford^{1,2,3*}

Affiliations:

¹ The Sprott Centre for Stem Cell Research, Regenerative Medicine Program, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute; Ottawa, Canada.

² Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine, University of Ottawa; Ottawa, Canada.

³ Ottawa Institute of Systems Biology; Ottawa, Canada.

⁴ Department of Pediatrics, CHEO Research Institute; Ottawa, Canada.

⁵ Department of Chemical Engineering and Applied Chemistry, University of Toronto; Toronto, Canada.

⁶ Institute for Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering, University of Toronto; Toronto, Canada.

⁷ The Donnelly Centre for Cellular and Biomolecular Research; Toronto, Canada.

⁸ BioSymetrics, Inc; Toronto, Canada.

⁹ Centre for Cell Biology, Development, and Disease, Department of Biological Sciences, Simon Fraser University; Burnaby, Canada.

¹⁰ Meakins-Christie Laboratories and Translational Research in Respiratory Diseases Program, Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre, Faculty of Medicine, Departments of Medicine and Critical Care; Montreal, Canada.

¹¹ Centre for Biologics Evaluation, Biologic and Radiopharmaceutical Drugs Directorate, Health Canada; Ottawa, Canada.

¹² Department of Chemistry, University of Toronto; Toronto, Canada.

* Corresponding author

Dr. William L. Stanford, Ph.D.

The Ottawa Hospital, 501 Smyth Rd, Box 511, CCW 5206c

Ottawa, ON K1H 8L6, Canada

wstanford@ohri.ca

One Sentence Summary: We performed a drug screen in 3D and discovered HDAC inhibitors exhibit therapeutic efficacy in models of the lung disease lymphangiomyomatosis.

939 SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS AND METHODS

940 Study reagents and resources

941 Please see below (**Table 1**) for a list of key reagents and resources used in this study.

942

943 **Table 1:** List of key reagents and resources used in this study.

REAGENTS and RESOURCES	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Antibodies		
PMEL	Thermo Fisher Scientific	MA5-13232
ACTA2	Abcam	ab5694
mCherry	Abcam	ab167453
pS6RP (Ser 235/236)	CST	2211
p4E-BP1(Thr 37/46)	CST	2855
S6RP	CST	2317
4E-BP1	Thermo Fisher Scientific	AHO1382
TSC2	CST	4308
ACTB	CST	370
Cleaved CASP3	CST	9661
mCherry	Thermo Fisher Scientific	M11217
AlexaFluor 488 Goat Anti-Rabbit IgG (H+L)	Thermo Fisher Scientific	A11034
AlexaFluor 488 Goat Anti-Mouse IgG (H+L)	Thermo Fisher Scientific	A11001
AlexaFluor 555 Goat Anti-Rabbit IgG (H+L)	Thermo Fisher Scientific	A21428
AlexaFluor 555 Goat Anti-Mouse IgG (H+L)	Thermo Fisher Scientific	A32727
AlexaFluor 647 Goat Anti-Rabbit IgG (H+L)	Thermo Fisher Scientific	A21245
AlexaFluor 647 Goat Anti-Mouse IgG (H+L)	Thermo Fisher Scientific	A21235
AlexaFluor 680 Goat Anti-Rabbit IgG (H+L)	Thermo Fisher Scientific	A21076
AlexaFluor 680 Goat Anti-Mouse IgG (H+L)	Thermo Fisher Scientific	A28183
DyLight 800 Goat Anti-Rabbit IgG (H+L)	Thermo Fisher Scientific	SA535571
DyLight 800 Goat Anti-Mouse IgG (H+L)	Thermo Fisher Scientific	SA535521
Live cell imaging dyes		
Hoechst 33342	Thermo Fisher Scientific	H3570
SyTOX Green	Thermo Fisher Scientific	S7020
NucView 488 Caspase-3 Enzyme Substrate	Biotium	10402
Annexin V	Biotium	29003
Small molecules		
Kinase Inhibitor library	Ontario Institute for Cancer Research	N/A
Tool Compound library	Ontario Institute for Cancer Research	N/A
Rapamycin	MilliporeSigma	553211
Staurosporine	AdooQ Bioscience	A10864
SAHA	AdooQ Bioscience	A10979
SB939	AdooQ Bioscience	A10830
LBH589	AdooQ Bioscience	A10518
BGT226	AdooQ Bioscience	A11162
OSI-027	Toronto Research Chemicals	A611910
AZD8055	AdooQ Bioscience	A10114

Y-27632	AdooQ Bioscience	A11001
PR-171 (Carfilzomib)	AdooQ Bioscience	A11278
BMS-354825 (Dasatinib)	AdooQ Bioscience	A10290
EdU	Thermo Fisher Scientific	A10044
Sulfo-Cy5-N ₃	Lumiprobe	A333
Buprenorphine	Provided by animal facility	N/A
Hydrogel reagents		
Sodium hyaluronate	Lifecore	HA-200K
5-Methylfurfurylamine	TCI Chemicals	MFCD00143471
Methylcellulose	Spectrum Chemicals	ME137
Vitronectin peptide	Synthesized in house	N/A
MMP-degradable cross-linker	Synthesized in house	N/A
Silica beads	VVE	CA75873-698
Hyaluronidase	Sigma-Aldrich	H3884
Cell culture reagents		
Essential 8	Prepared in house	N/A
Matrigel	Corning	354230
Dispase	Stem Cell Technologies	7913
Medium 231	Thermo Fisher Scientific	M-231-500
Smooth Muscle Growth Supplement	Thermo Fisher Scientific	S00725
Trypsin	Thermo Fisher Scientific	25300062
Collagenase from Clostridium histolyticum	Sigma-Aldrich	C0130
Ethyl 3-aminobenzoate methanesulfonate (Tricaine)	Sigma-Aldrich	E10521
Accutase	Stem Cell Technologies	7920
Commercial kits and materials		
VEGF-D DuoSet ELISA Kit	R&D Systems	DY622
BOLT 4-12% 1 mm, 10-well gel	Thermo Fisher Scientific	NW04120BOX
Stain-Free 4-20% 1mm 15-well gel	Bio-Rad	4568096
NucleoSpin® RNA 740955.250 D-Mark Bio	Machery-Nagel	740955.250
Cell models		
H9 human embryonic stem cell, WT	WiCell	WB67614
H9 <i>TSC2</i> ^{-/-}	Generated in house (14)	N/A
H9 teratoma-derived LAM cells (WT and <i>TSC2</i> ^{-/-})	Generated in house	N/A
Animal models		
NOD.Cg-Prkdc ^{scid} Il2rg ^{tm1Wjl} /SzJ (NSG)	Jackson Laboratory	005557
<i>casper</i> mutant zebrafish	Gift from Dr. Leonard Zon (41)	N/A
Software and algorithms		
ImageJ 1.53c	ImageJ	N/A
R 4.0.3	R	N/A
RStudio 1.3.1093	RStudio	N/A
Gene Set Enrichment Analysis (GSEA)	(43)	N/A
Mechanism of Action Miner (Elion™)	BioSymetrics	Described here

944

945 **Cell culture**

946 *Pluripotent stem cell culture*

947 H9 hPSCs (female) were maintained on a thin layer of 0.16 mg/mL Matrigel at 37°C,
948 10% CO₂. Cells were fed with Essential 8 media, prepared in house. Cells were passaged by
949 incubation with 500 μM EDTA for 3 min., then cell scraping and transfer to a new pre-coated
950 plate by wide-bore pipette.

951

952 *LAM and control cell model derivation and culture*

953 LAM cell models were established via a previously reported *in vivo* differentiation
954 protocol of human pluripotent stem cells (23). We differentiated a previously reported pair of
955 mCherry⁺ WT and genome-engineered *TSC2*^{-/-} hPSCs, derived from the H9 parental lineage
956 (female cells) (14). First, we generated teratomas in female NOD.Cg-*Prkdc*^{scid} *Il2rg*^{tm1Wjl}/SzJ
957 (NSG) mice as described in Mouse teratoma formation section. At end point, mice were
958 euthanized and dissected under sterile conditions. The teratomas were extracted while carefully
959 ensuring minimal mouse tissue remnants. The teratoma was minced and then rotated in a 5 U/mL
960 Dispase solution at 37°C for 30 mins. Digested tissue was plated on a thin layer of 0.16 mg/mL
961 Matrigel at 37°C, 5% CO₂ in Medium 231 containing Smooth Muscle Growth Supplement.
962 Tissue clumps were removed the following day. The remaining monolayer was expanded and
963 passaged by treatment with 0.05% Trypsin for 5 min. Maintenance culture conditions included a
964 thin layer of 0.16 mg/mL Matrigel at 37°C, 5% CO₂ in Medium 231 containing Smooth Muscle
965 Growth Supplement. Cells were expanded for two passages before cryopreservation and use in
966 subsequent experiments at passages 3-5.

967

968 *LAM and control cell model clonal isolation*

969 LAM cells were clonally isolated by limiting dilution. Briefly, bulk cell cultures were
970 dissociated and serially diluted to a concentration of ~ 0.3 cells / 100 μ L. We used this
971 concentration to optimize number of single cells isolated while minimizing two or more cells
972 contributing to a single clone. We added 100 μ L of the suspension to each well of a 96-well plate
973 containing a thin layer of 0.16 mg/mL Matrigel. Clones were expanded for 10 days before
974 dissociating and plating onto the hydrogel.

975

976 **Hydrogel culture**

977 *Reagent production*

978 Hydrogel culture was conducted according to a previously established protocol (18).
979 Briefly, a hyaluronic acid polymer backbone was derivatized with 5-methylfurfurylamine to 65%
980 substitution (confirmed by ^1H NMR). A vitronectin-mimetic peptide (maleimide)-
981 KGGPQVTRGDVFTMPG, and MMP-degradable peptide crosslinker (maleimide)-
982 KKGRGPQGIWGQKGPQGIWGQ-K(maleimide)S were synthesized using microwave-assisted
983 Fmoc solid phase peptide synthesis with a CEM Liberty Blue automated peptide synthesizer.
984 Hydrogel viscoelasticity was increased by incorporation of methylcellulose derivatized with
985 reactive thiol groups.

986

987 *Hydrogel gelation and culture*

988 All chemically synthesized hydrogel components were mixed to the following final
989 concentrations: 0.9 % methylfuronated hyaluronate, 2.3 mM MMP crosslinker, 100 μ M
990 vitronectin peptide, and 0.05 mg/mL thiolated methylcellulose. 15 μ L of the solution was added
991 to each well of a 384-well plate and permitted to gel at 37°C for 3 hours. Following gelation,

992 wells were hydrated with PBS and then subjected to three media washes interspaced with
993 incubations at 37°C for 45 mins. LAM or control cells were then dissociated, added to plates
994 containing hydrogel, and spun for 3 min. at 10g to achieve immediate contact with the hydrogel.

995

996 **Cell treatments**

997 *Drug treatments*

998 All small molecule compounds were diluted in either DMSO or PBS, unless otherwise
999 stated. The appropriate diluent-matched vehicle control was included in every experiment. Drug
1000 treatments were added directly to wells containing cells at 5X concentrations to avoid washing
1001 off any cells, particularly in sensitive miniaturized formats. Rapamycin was consistently used at
1002 a 20nM concentration. All compound treatments were conducted for 72 hours unless otherwise
1003 stated.

1004

1005 *Live cell staining*

1006 Live cell staining dyes were used at the following final concentrations: 10 µg/mL
1007 Hoechst 33342, 50 nM SyTOX Green, 4 µM Caspase-3 Enzyme Substrate, and 0.2 µg/mL
1008 Annexin V. Dyes were incubated for 30 min. prior to imaging and added as 10X concentrates in
1009 PBS; Annexin V diluent also contained 2.5mM CaCl₂. To avoid cell detachment in the
1010 miniaturized well format, live imaging dyes were not washed prior to imaging; this did not
1011 impact image acquisition as dyes are minimally fluorescent unless bound to the target molecule.

1012

1013 **Cytotoxicity-invasion assay**

1014 Cells were permitted to invade through the hydrogel (384-well format) for 72 hrs while
1015 incubated at 37°C and 5% CO₂. At end point, Hoechst and SyTOX were added directly to all
1016 wells as described in **Cell treatments** section. Whole-well multi-planar images were acquired by
1017 widefield microscopy with 40 μm separation between z-stacks. Following image acquisition,
1018 wells were fixed overnight in 10% formalin. We then added 1μg of silica beads to each well and
1019 acquired multiplanar brightfield images, with the plane of maximal contrast used to determine
1020 hydrogel-liquid interface (described in **Image analysis**). Acquiring location of the hydrogel
1021 interface (i.e., start of the cellular position) is essential for accurate invasion distance calculation;
1022 the hydrogel exhibits a meniscus which leads to a variable Z starting position depending on the
1023 XY location.

1024

1025 **Three-dimensional drug screen**

1026 *Screen design*

1027 Both WT and *TSC2*^{-/-} cells were treated with every drug from the Ontario Institute for
1028 Cancer Research (OICR) Kinase Inhibitor and Tool Compound library (total of 800 compounds)
1029 at a concentration of 5 μM ± 20nM rapamycin. Cells were treated for 72 hr. while cultured in
1030 hydrogel and assessed at end point for cytotoxicity and invasion modulation as described in
1031 **Cytotoxicity-invasion assay**. Each plate included internal vehicle-treated only controls. Z' was
1032 calculated for cytotoxicity and invasion modulation using vehicle-treated samples (negative
1033 control), 10 μM Y27632-treated (positive control, invasion), and 5 μM Carflizomib-treated
1034 (positive control, cytotoxicity).

1035

1036 *Compound score calculation*

1037 To identify drugs with statistically significant effect(s), we computed z-scores for
1038 invasion modulation, cytotoxicity, selective invasion modulation, and selective cytotoxicity, for
1039 each WT and *TSC2*^{-/-} in the presence or absence of rapamycin. We confirmed that the reference
1040 population of vehicle-treated controls for each metric was normally distributed and variance did
1041 not vary with effect mean. Cytotoxicity is determined by the percentage of SyTOX⁺ cells;
1042 invasion modulation is determined by the percentage of cells invading past the vehicle-control
1043 median threshold (See Image analysis section). Selective cytotoxicity is determined by the
1044 difference in cytotoxicity between WT and *TSC2*^{-/-} cells, where positive values indicate more
1045 dead cells in the *TSC2*^{-/-} condition. Selective invasion modulation is determined by the difference
1046 in cytotoxicity between *TSC2*^{-/-} and WT cells, where positive values indicate fewer invading
1047 cells in the *TSC2*^{-/-} condition. We then calculated p-values and corrected for multiple hypothesis
1048 testing by computing false discovery rates. All computation was performed using R 4.0.3 and
1049 RStudio 1.3.1093.

1050

1051 *Target enrichment analysis*

1052 To refine our candidate compound list, we performed target enrichment analysis using a
1053 modified version of the GSEA algorithm (43). Enrichment analysis was performed separately for
1054 cytotoxicity and invasion modulation. For cytotoxicity, we focused our compound list to drugs
1055 that showed selective cytotoxicity, either in the presence or absence of rapamycin. If a drug was
1056 shown to be significantly beneficial in one condition but significantly detrimental in the other, it
1057 was excluded. We then derived a singular compound score by computing the arithmetic mean
1058 across the two conditions. Similarly, for invasion modulation, we focused our compound list to
1059 drugs that exhibit anti-invasion effects towards WT or *TSC2*^{-/-} cells, either in the presence or

1060 absence of rapamycin. Again, we excluded compounds that showed opposing effects, and
1061 derived a singular compound score by arithmetic mean across conditions.

1062 We next generated a background target list using known compound targets as annotated
1063 by the OICR. We created generalizable categories wherever possible, however, there were many
1064 targets that could not be grouped and conferred an $n = 1$ category. To avoid the possibility of
1065 bias, these categories were established by an independent author blinded to the original
1066 compound results. Using this background list and our compound score lists as described above,
1067 we determined target enrichment using the GSEA algorithm (43).

1068

1069 *ElionTM analysis*

1070 A limitation to our analyses is the small number of compounds which were identified to
1071 selectively eliminate *TSC2^{-/-}* cells. We sought to extend our compound list *in silico* using a
1072 structure-based approach with ElionTM (Mechanism of Action Miner), conducted by an
1073 independent group. ElionTM is a software package that ingests binary phenotypic data linked to
1074 individual drug treatments to suggest possible underlying protein targets and molecular
1075 pathways. The platform inputs phenotypic screening data in the form of a two-column CSV file
1076 corresponding to the chemical structure in SMILES format alongside a binary bioactivity
1077 reading.

1078 Using this dataset, a total of 8,000 features are generated for each supplied chemical
1079 structure. These features are comprised of chemical fingerprints (ECFP4, FCFP4, RDK-layered
1080 fingerprint, and MACCS) alongside physical properties (e.g., molecular weight, total polar
1081 surface area, LogP). If there are fewer than 8,000 rows in the input data set, a subset of features
1082 are chosen for downstream machine learning. The size of this feature subset is set to be 70% of

1083 the number of rows in the input data set. Feature selection is performed using a bootstrapped
1084 logistic regression strategy. In brief, a set number of features are sampled from the original
1085 feature set and are used to train a logistic regression model. The coefficients of this model are
1086 then used to rank feature importance. This process is repeated 5,000 times and the resulting
1087 coefficients are averaged for each feature to create a summarized feature importance score.

1088 Once a feature set is chosen, a total of 6 machine learning models are built and evaluated
1089 on the input data set (XGBoost, random forest, Gaussian naive Bayes, uniform and distance
1090 weighted K-nearest neighbours, and Gaussian process classifiers). Each model is trained and
1091 evaluated using 10-fold cross validation while recording classification performance according to
1092 accuracy, ROC-AUC, precision and recall. The best performing model is then chosen and used
1093 to rank a set of 1 million compounds (curated from public databases) according to probability of
1094 inducing the given phenotype.

1095 Of the 1M ranked compounds, several are annotated according to experimentally
1096 validated protein targets and mechanisms of action. The GSEA algorithm is used to determine
1097 which of these targets and MoAs are most positively enriched within the ranked set of
1098 compounds. We then subset this list using an FDR threshold to identify a set of enriched targets
1099 and MoAs. Using the enriched targets, we perform gene ontology and protein family pathway
1100 enrichment using the Fisher exact test. A Bonferroni corrected p-value threshold of 0.05 is used
1101 to identify cellular pathways corresponding to the phenotype of interest.

1102 As a result of this process, ElionTM translates an input phenotypic screen into three
1103 informative outputs. First, it supplies a ranked list of publicly available compounds prioritized
1104 according to their likelihood to induce the given phenotype. Second, it provides a list of targets
1105 and MoAs likely to mitigate the provided phenotype. Last, it annotates these targets with

1106 enriched cellular pathways. All of these results are presented in a web application annotated with
1107 rich descriptions and link-outs to relevant genetic databases.

1108

1109 **Image analysis**

1110 *Identification of cell spatial positions and cell invasion distance*

1111 We identified XYZ cell positions in the hydrogel by analysis of the Hoechst channel z-
1112 stack. We first determined XY positions by employing the ImageJ 1.53c “Find maxima” function
1113 on the z-stack maximum intensity projection. We automated the determination of the noise (or
1114 background) threshold by empirical iteration. Using the assumption that true Hoechst signal
1115 should be substantially above background fluorescence, we computed “Find maxima” with a
1116 liberal threshold, and then progressively increased threshold stringency until the number of
1117 identified points did not vary with each stepwise threshold change. Each maxima was determined
1118 to correspond to a single cell spatial location. Following, for each XY spatial position, we
1119 iterated through the Hoechst z-stack and identified to the point of maximal intensity,
1120 corresponding to the cell Z position.

1121 To determine the invasion distance of each single cell, we must first know the cell
1122 starting position, which varied across XY positions due to the meniscus exhibited by the
1123 hydrogel. To identify determine hydrogel interface Z position across the XY plane, we used the
1124 silica bead brightfield images (described in Cytotoxicity-invasion assay). For each XY cell
1125 spatial position, we iterated through the brightfield z-stack and identified the point of maximal
1126 contrast, which corresponded to the layer containing silica beads (due to diffraction). We then
1127 determined individual cell distances travelled by computing the difference between cell starting

1128 and final positions. This process, automated for high throughput analysis, was scripted in ImageJ
1129 1.53c.

1130

1131 *Binarization of live cell stains*

1132 Live cell stains (i.e. SyTOX, Caspase-3 enzyme substrate, and Annexin V) were
1133 binarized into a positive or negative signal for each cell. We first created a masking around the
1134 Hoechst signal of each cell in the maximum intensity projection image, then measured the total
1135 fluorescent signal of the live cell stain within each masking. To binarize in an automated fashion,
1136 we fit an empirical probability density function (ePDF) by kernel density estimation on the
1137 vehicle control sample values. Assuming the majority of untreated samples should be negative
1138 for cell death stains, we determined the threshold for binarization to be the first local minimum
1139 of the negative control ePDF. Cells across conditions were then binarized according to their
1140 matched control threshold. This process, automated for high throughput analysis, was scripted in
1141 ImageJ 1.53c and R 4.0.3 within the RStudio 1.3.1093 environment.

1142

1143 *Quantification of cellular invasion*

1144 Cellular invasion was determined by number of cells invading past a fixed distance. As
1145 the invasion distance varied slightly batch to batch (see Fig. 1F), distance thresholds for each
1146 experiment were based on within-experiment vehicle controls. We used both the median
1147 invasion of vehicle controls, which is sensitive to detecting decreases in invasion, and 90th
1148 percentile invasion of vehicle controls, which is sensitive to detecting increases in invasion.
1149 Genotype-specific thresholds were employed due to the differing invasion distances between WT
1150 and *TSC2*^{-/-} cells. To determine invasion of alive cells only, SyTOX⁺ positive cells were removed

1151 from the distribution prior to calculation of invasion percentages. This process, automated for
1152 high throughput analysis, was scripted in R 4.0.3 within the RStudio 1.3.1093 environment.

1153

1154 *Immunofluorescence stain quantification*

1155 Immunofluorescence experiments were quantified using the raw image files, ensuring the
1156 absence of detector saturation. We created a masking around the Hoechst signal of each cell in
1157 the maximum intensity projection image, then measured the mean fluorescent signal of the
1158 protein-of-interest within the total masking area. Measurements per replicate were re-scaled from
1159 0 – 1 by dividing by the replicate maximum value. We note that comparisons between plastic
1160 and hydrogel samples cannot be directly made, as the imaging parameters differ between the
1161 two-dimensional vs. three-dimensional environment (see Fig. 2B).

1162

1163 *Invasion quantification upon zebrafish xenotransplantation*

1164 Invasion of transplanted mCherry⁺ cells was performed in a semi-automated fashion on
1165 blinded images (Fig. S6B). For each image, a region of interest was manually selected on the
1166 maximum intensity Z projection, to distinguish areas with mCherry⁺ cells from surrounding
1167 auto-fluorescent regions (e.g., zebrafish eye, yolk sac, ossicle). Images were then binarized using
1168 a constant threshold to distinguish positive signal from background. Pixels were classified into
1169 “invaded” or “not invaded” based on the distance from the center of the initial injection site. We
1170 used the average of the first local minima of the positive pixel histogram from 1 day post
1171 injected images to determine the distance for classification of invaded or not. Following pixel
1172 classification, the ratio of the total positive pixel intensity in each group was computed to

1173 determine the zebrafish invasion score. Groups were then unblinded and graphed. This process
1174 was scripted in ImageJ 1.53c and R 4.0.3 within the RStudio 1.3.1093 environment.

1175

1176 **RNA-seq**

1177 *RNA extraction and quality control*

1178 Extraction of RNA from cells embedded in hydrogel is made challenging by the low
1179 cellular density relative to the abundant extracellular matrix. To extract RNA, we developed an
1180 extraction protocol that combines phenol-chloroform phase separation with column-based
1181 purification. We first added TriZOL directly to wells and homogenized the cell-hydrogel mixture
1182 using a 26-gauge needle. We then centrifuged the lysate for 5min, 12,000g, at 4°C to pellet the
1183 cross-linked hyaluronic acid matrix. We extracted the supernatant and mixed in chloroform,
1184 followed by centrifugation to induce phase separation. The colourless aqueous phase was
1185 extracted and mixed with equal volumes of 70% EtOH. Following a brief incubation at room
1186 temperature, the solution was eluted through a Machery-Nagel Nucleospin column. We
1187 proceeded with column-based purification as per manufacturing protocol.

1188

1189 *RNA-sequencing and raw data processing*

1190 RNA samples were shipped to the Donnelly Sequence Centre (Toronto, Canada) for
1191 RNA quality-control, library preparation, and next-generation sequencing. RNA integrity was
1192 assessed via Bioanalyzer (Agilent) and only samples with RIN > 8 were prepared for sequencing.
1193 Oligo(dT) priming via SMART-Seq v4 (Takara Bio) preparation kit was used to generate full-
1194 length cDNA libraries. Samples were subjected to paired-end sequencing on a NovaSeq 6000,
1195 100c (Illumina) to a depth of ~50 million reads per sample.

1196 Raw sequence read quality was assessed by *FastQC*. Read feature assignments and
1197 duplication rates were determined using *featureCounts* and *Picard*. Overall mapping rate was
1198 assessed with *HISAT2*. Finally, read assignment to transcripts was performed using *Salmon*,
1199 generating a final pseudocount abundance matrix. All QC processing was summarized using
1200 *MultiQC* and programmed in R 4.0.3 within the RStudio 1.3.1093 environment. RNA-seq data is
1201 accessible at the Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO) repository with accession GSE179044.

1202

1203 *Differential gene expression and enrichment analysis*

1204 Pseudocount abundance data generated by *Salmon* was imported into the *DEseq2*
1205 framework in R for differential expression and enrichment analysis. Principal components
1206 analysis was conducted on all samples to visualize transcriptomes in a two-dimensional space.
1207 For single variable differential expression testing, we subsetted samples to only include the
1208 untreated and fit the following model: $\sim batch + genotype + substrate$. We then tested for genes
1209 with significant coefficients by Wald test, separately for genotype and for culture substrate. To
1210 assess for changes across genotype that differs between matrix condition, we again subsetted for
1211 untreated samples and fit the following model: $\sim batch + genotype + substrate +$
1212 $genotype:substrate$. The interaction term coefficient for each gene was tested for significance by
1213 Wald test. Differentially expressed genes were called when false discovery rate (FDR) < 0.05 , \pm
1214 $|\log_2\text{FoldChange}| > 1$ (as indicated in the text).

1215 To visualize expression values by heatmap or gene cluster, sample conditions were
1216 collapsed by abundance summation, normalized, and then transformed by regularized \log_2
1217 transformation (implemented in *DEseq2*). Heatmaps were generated using the *pheatmap* package
1218 in R and gene clusters were generated by hierarchal clustering. GO term enrichment was

1219 performed using *clusterProfiler* on significant DEGs (FDR < 0.05, $\pm |\log_2\text{FoldChange}| > 1$). All
1220 analysis was conducted using R 4.0.3 within the RStudio 1.3.1093 environment.

1221

1222 **Animal studies**

1223 *Mouse teratoma formation*

1224 hPSCs were dissociated into single cells by Accutase treatment for 15 min at 37°C.

1225 Single cells were harvested, washed, and resuspended in 5 mg/mL Matrigel. Female 8-week-old

1226 NSG mice were treated with buprenorphine 1 hour before injection, then anesthetized by

1227 isofluorane under a continuous stream of O₂. We bilaterally injected 1x10⁶ hPSC into the mouse

1228 tibialis anterior. We allowed teratomas to grow over a 12-week period, after which mice were

1229 sacrificed and teratomas extracted.

1230

1231 *Mouse subcutaneous xenografts*

1232 LAM cells were dissociated into single cells by 0.05% Trypsin treatment for 5 min. at

1233 37°C, washed, and resuspended in 5 mg/mL Matrigel. Female 8-week-old NSG mice were

1234 anesthetized by isofluorane under a continuous stream of O₂ and injected with 1x10⁶ cells

1235 subcutaneously in each rear flank. We monitored for palpable tumor growth weekly over a four-

1236 month period, after which animals were sacrificed.

1237

1238 *Mouse IVIS image acquisition*

1239 Female 8-week-old NSG mice that were injected with LAM cells in each rear flank were

1240 monitored for tumor growth by endogenous mCherry expression of LAM cells. Mice were

1241 anesthetized by isofluorane under a continuous stream of O₂ and shaved to eliminate background

1242 fluorescence from the fur coat. Mice were then imaged at fixed exposure times by *in vivo*
1243 imaging (PerkinElmer, IVIS®).

1244

1245 *Zebrafish toxicity assay*

1246 72-hour post-fertilization (hpf) zebrafish larvae were arrayed one larva per well in a 96-
1247 well plate and treated with increasing concentrations of each inhibitor for 72 hrs to ascertain
1248 toxicity thresholds. There were no *in vivo* toxic effects at the experimental *in vitro* concentrations
1249 and thus, zebrafish experimental doses were chosen to stay consistent with *in vitro* treatment
1250 doses.

1251

1252 *Zebrafish hindbrain ventricle xenotransplantation*

1253 For each injection experiment, a separate cryovial of cells was thawed and cultured 3
1254 days prior to zebrafish transplantation, without any subculturing. On the day of transplantation,
1255 cells were dissociated by 0.25% trypsin, centrifuged for 5 mins at 300g, and resuspended in
1256 approximately 30 μ L of culture medium for injection. 72 hpf zebrafish larvae were anesthetized
1257 with 0.09 mg/mL tricaine (Millipore Sigma) and arrayed in troughs of an agarose injection plate
1258 and used for cell transplantation using protocols described previously (44, 45). The cells were
1259 backloaded into a pulled capillary needle and allowed to settle for approximately 20 mins at
1260 35°C to ensure a cell pellet at the bottom of the needle. A PLI-100A Pico-liter Microinjector
1261 (Warner Instruments) was used to manually inject 50-100 cells into the hindbrain ventricle
1262 (HBV) of each larva. Following injections, the larvae were kept at 35°C for the remainder of the
1263 experiment.

1264

1265 *Zebrafish drug treatments*

1266 1 day post injection (dpi), injected larvae were screened on an Axio Observer 7
1267 fluorescent microscope under an mCherry filter to ensure the presence of cells only in the HBV.
1268 Groups of 20-30 positively injected larvae were randomized into groups to be treated with either
1269 vehicle control (DMSO), 20 nM rapamycin alone, 5 μ M SB939 alone, 20 μ M SAHA alone, 1
1270 μ M LBH589 alone or with one HDACi in combination with rapamycin by immersion therapy
1271 for 72hrs. At the experimental endpoint (3 days post-treatment) the groups of larvae were
1272 blinded and imaged on the Axio Observer 7 using the z-stack function to capture cell movement
1273 in all planes. Blinded groups of images were then subjected to automated invasion analysis by an
1274 independent study author.

1275

1276 *Zebrafish whole larval dissociation and fixation*

1277 At 1 dpi (baseline) and 4 dpi (three days post-treatment), 20 larvae from each group were
1278 euthanized and dissociated in 100mg/mL collagenase solution for approximately 30 mins. Upon
1279 completion of dissociation (i.e., single cell suspension formed), 200 μ L of 100% FBS was added
1280 to slow the enzymatic reaction. The samples were then centrifuged for 5 min. at 300 *g* and the
1281 supernatant was removed, leaving a pellet of human tumor cells among the zebrafish cells. The
1282 samples were washed once in 30% FBS in PBS and centrifuged once more for 5 min. at 300 *g*.
1283 The supernatant was removed and 250 μ L of 4% PFA in PBS was added to each sample for 20
1284 min. in the dark. 1mL of PBS was added and samples were centrifuged and PFA supernatant was
1285 removed. Samples were resuspended in 500 μ L PBS, stored at 4°C, and blinded prior to flow
1286 cytometry analysis.

1287

1288 **Immunofluorescence staining**

1289 The following protocol is for immunofluorescence staining of cells in monolayer culture
1290 on plastic. Modifications for whole-mount (WM) staining of cells in three-dimensional hydrogel
1291 are indicated throughout.

1292 Cells were fixed with 4% PFA for 15 min. (WM: 30 min.) at room temperature. Wells
1293 were washed 3 x 5 min. (WM: 20 min.) with PBS, then permeabilized with 0.1% Triton-X in
1294 PBS for 20 min. (WM: 40 min) at room temperature. Wells were washed 3 x 5 min. (WM: 20
1295 min.) with PBS, then blocked with 1% BSA in PBS for 1 hr. (WM: 2 hr.) at room temperature.
1296 We then added primary antibody diluted in blocking solution for overnight incubation at 4°C.
1297 The following concentrations of antibodies were employed: PMEL (1:50), ACAT2 (1:100),
1298 pS6RP^{Ser235/236}(1:100), and p4E-BP1^{Thr37/46}(1:200). The next day, wells were wash 3 x 5 min.
1299 (WM: 5 x 30 min.) with PBS, then incubated with fluorescent secondary antibodies diluted
1300 blocking solution for 1 hr. (WM: 2 hr.) at room temperature. All fluorescent secondary
1301 antibodies were used at a 1:1000 dilution. Wells were then washed 3 x 5 min. (WM: 5 x 30 min.)
1302 with PBS then counterstained with 10 µg/mL Hoechst 33342 for 30 min. (WM: 45 min.) Wells
1303 were washed 3 x 5 min (WM: 5 x 30 min.), then mounted with a 90% glycerol (WM: PBS, as the
1304 hydrogel disintegrates in glycerol) solution made in house, prior to imaging.

1305

1306 **Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA)**

1307 Maintenance cultures of cells at equivalent densities were incubated for 16 hr. in Medium
1308 231 ± 20nM rapamycin, without serum supplement. Conditioned media was collected and
1309 centrifuged to remove any cellular debris, then assayed by VEGF-D ELISA kit (R&D Systems,
1310 DY622) following the manufacturer protocol.

1311

1312 **Flow cytometry**

1313 LAM cells were dissociated into single cells by 0.05% Trypsin treatment for 5 min. at
1314 37°C, washed, and then fixed with 4% PFA for 15 min. at room temperature. Fixing solution was
1315 diluted out 1/10 in PBS, cells were pelleted by centrifugation, and supernatant discarded. For
1316 details on zebrafish single cell preparation, see Zebrafish whole organism dissociation and
1317 fixation section. Fixed single cell suspensions were permeabilized with 0.1% Triton-X in PBS
1318 for 20 min. at room temperature. Permeabilizing solution was diluted out 1/10 in PBS, cells were
1319 pelleted by centrifugation, and supernatant discarded. Samples were then blocked with 1% BSA
1320 or 5% Goat Serum in PBS for 1 hr. Cells were pelleted by centrifugation, supernatant discarded,
1321 and primary antibodies diluted in blocking solution were added for overnight incubation at 4°C.
1322 The following concentrations of antibodies were employed: PMEL (1:50), ACAT2 (1:100),
1323 mCherry (1:1000), and Cleaved CASP3 (1:500). The next day, primary antibody solution was
1324 diluted out 1/10 in PBS, cells were pelleted by centrifugation, and supernatant discarded.
1325 Samples were then incubated with fluorescent secondary antibodies diluted blocking solution for
1326 1 hr. at room temperature. All fluorescent secondary antibodies were used as a 1:1000 dilution.
1327 Secondary antibody solution was diluted out 1/10 in PBS, cells were pelleted by centrifugation,
1328 and supernatant discarded. Samples were next counterstained with 10 µg/mL Hoechst 33342 for
1329 20 min. at room temperature. Hoechst 33342 solution was diluted out 1/10 in PBS, cells were
1330 pelleted by centrifugation, and supernatant discarded. Finally, cells were strained and analyzed
1331 using the LSRFortessa (BD) flow cytometer.

1332

1333 **Low input western blot**

1334 Hydrogel culture must be performed in a miniaturized format to maintain the appropriate
1335 mechanics as previously reported (18). Naturally, this poses a challenge for collecting sufficient
1336 protein for standard molecular biology methods, such as a western blot. To address this
1337 challenge, we developed a method for a low input western blot that includes in-well lysis and
1338 sample preparation, followed by a gel-based method for sample normalization.

1339 Samples were cultured on plastic or in hydrogel for 72 hr. Following, sample media was
1340 aspirated to the hydrogel interface (leaving a similar volume in plastic wells) and an equivalent
1341 volume of 2X Laemmli-RiPA buffer was added to each well. Samples were incubated for 10
1342 min. at 37°C and triturated up and down, careful not to disturb the hydrogel. The sample volume
1343 was then extracted and boiled for 10 min. at 70°C. As this extraction contains a large amount of
1344 non-cellular derived protein components (due to degradation of the hydrogel MMP-cleavable
1345 crosslinkers), standard protein quantification by colorimetric methods (e.g., BCA, and Bradford)
1346 are not reliable. Instead, we performed total protein quantification on gel-separated samples.
1347 First, an aliquot of each sample was electrophoresed on a stain-free 4–20% 1 mm 15-well gel,
1348 along with a serial dilution of a sample of known concentration. The gel was then activated by
1349 UV exposure and total protein visualized by ChemiDoc Gel Imager (Bio-Rad). We then
1350 calculated individual sample concentrations by comparing against the within-gel standard curve,
1351 without including bands corresponded to the hydrogel MMP peptides.

1352 After sample extraction and quantification, we analyzed samples following standard
1353 western blotting procedures. To maximize sample input, Thermo Fisher Scientific BOLT gels
1354 were used, which contain space for up to 60 µL of sample per lane. We first separated samples
1355 by SDS-PAGE using a BOLT 4-12% 1 mm 10-well gel and MES running buffer. Samples were
1356 transferred onto a 0.45 µm PVDF membrane overnight at 4°C by wet transfer with Towbin

1357 buffer (containing 0.025% SDS and 10% MeOH). The membrane was then blocked by 5% BSA
1358 in PBS-T (0.1% Tween-20) for 1 hr. at room temperature. Following, the membrane was
1359 incubated overnight at 4°C in primary antibodies diluted in blocking buffer at the following
1360 concentrations: pS6RP^{Ser235/236}(1:5000), p4E-BP1^{Thr37/46}(1:1000), S6RP (1:500), 4E-BP1
1361 (1:1000), TSC2 (1:5000), and ACTB (1:5000). The membrane was washed 3 x 5 min. with PBS-
1362 T, and then incubated for 1 hr. at room temperature in fluorescent secondary antibodies diluted
1363 1:10,000 in blocking buffer. The membrane was washed 3 x 5 min. with PBS-T and then imaged
1364 using Odyssey Gel Imager (LI-COR Biosciences).

1365

1366 **EdU proliferation assay**

1367 Cells were pulsed with 5 µM of EdU for 3 hr. Subsequently, cells were fixed with 4%
1368 PFA for 15 min. at room temperature. Wells were washed 3 x 5 min. with PBS, permeabilized
1369 with 0.1% Triton-X in PBS for 20 min. at room temperature, then washed again 3 x 5 min. We
1370 prepared the click reaction by mixing the following components in the described order, in PBS,
1371 to the indicated final concentrations: 4 mM Cu₂SO₄, 5 µM Sulfo-Cy5-N₃, and 100 mM L-
1372 ascorbic acid. The click reaction mix was added to wells containing cells and incubated at room
1373 temperature for 30 min. Wells were washed 3 x 5 min. with PBS, counterstained with 10 µg/mL
1374 Hoechst 33342 for 30 min, washed again 3 x 5 min., and then imaged.

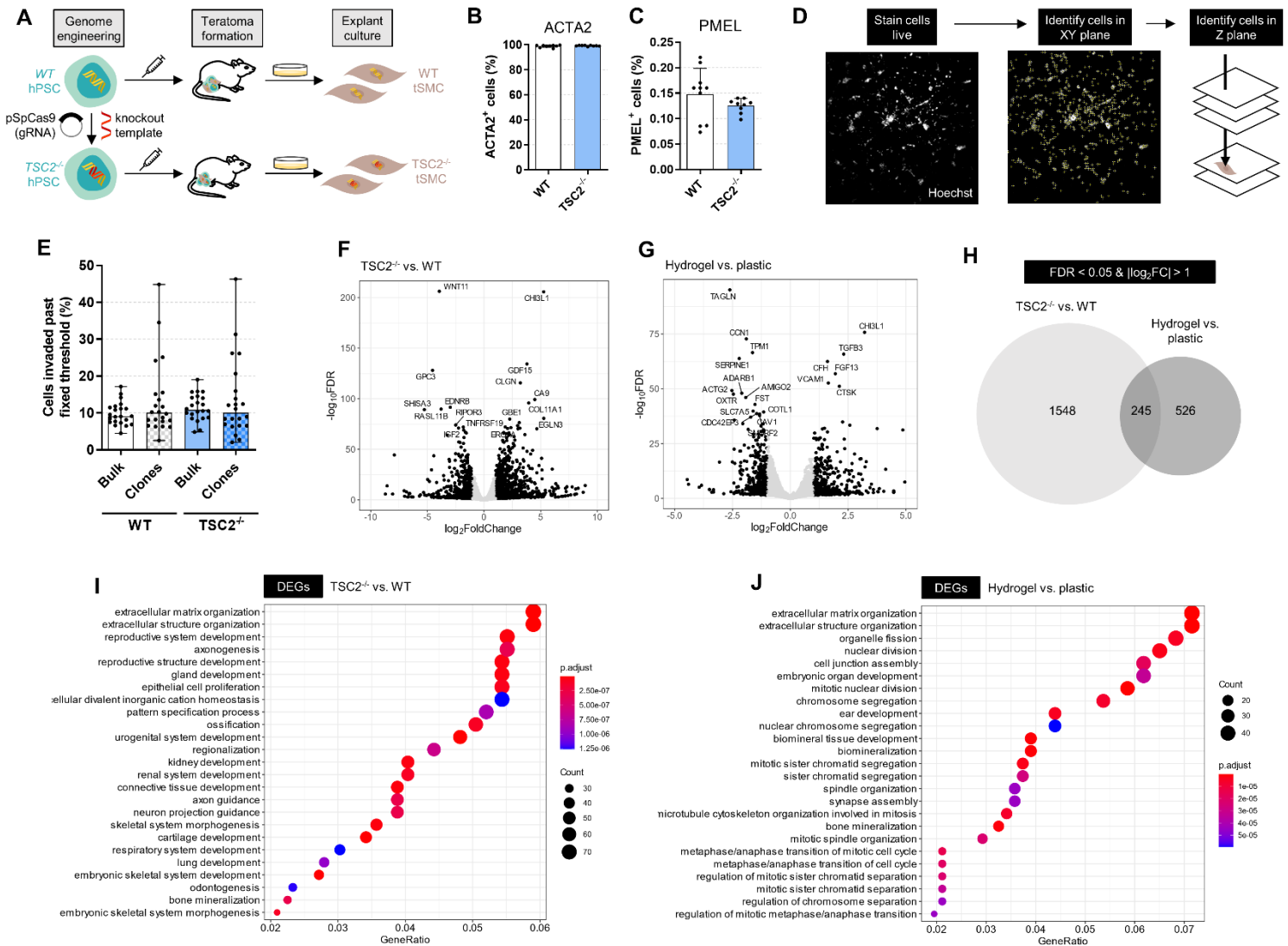
1375

1376 **Clonogenic assay**

1377 Cells were plated on the hydrogel and treated with HDAC inhibitors at the designated
1378 concentration for 72 hr. Following treatment, wells were washed 3 x 20 min. with media to
1379 remove the drug from solution. The hydrogel was then solubilized by addition of 150 U
1380 hyaluronidase per 15 µL hydrogel and incubated for 1 hr. at 37°C. Following, 0.05% Trypsin

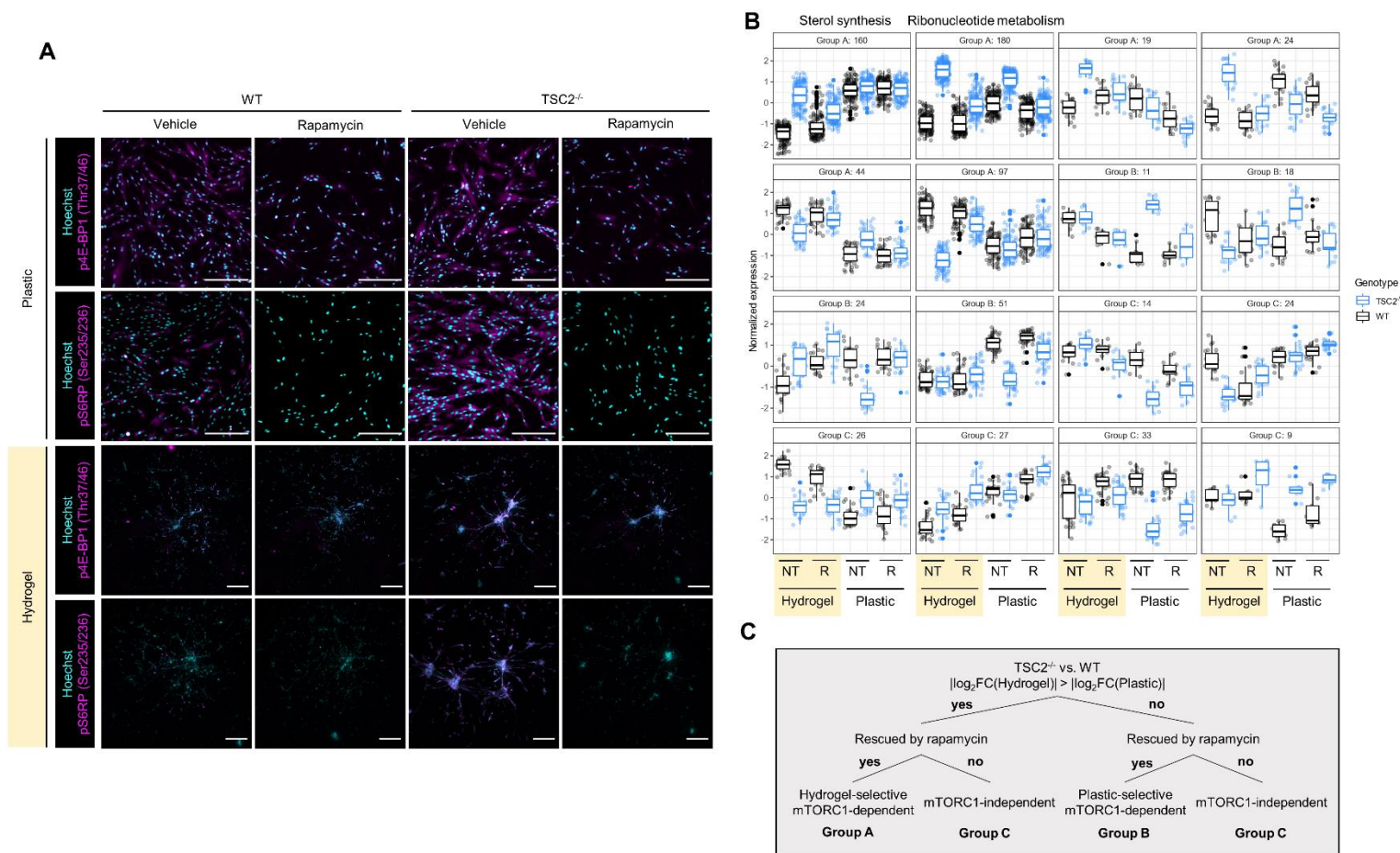
1381 was added to the wells for 10 min. at 37°C to dissociate cells. Wells were triturated and then
1382 plated on two-dimensional tissue cultures plates, in serial dilution. Cells were permitted to
1383 proliferate for 10 days, forming colonies from single cells. Following, wells were fixed with 4%
1384 PFA for 15 min. at room temperature, then washed 3 x 5 min. with PBS. Colonies were stained
1385 with 0.1% crystal violet for 1 hr. at room temperature, washed 3 x 5 min. with ddH₂O, air dried,
1386 and imaged.

1387 SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURES

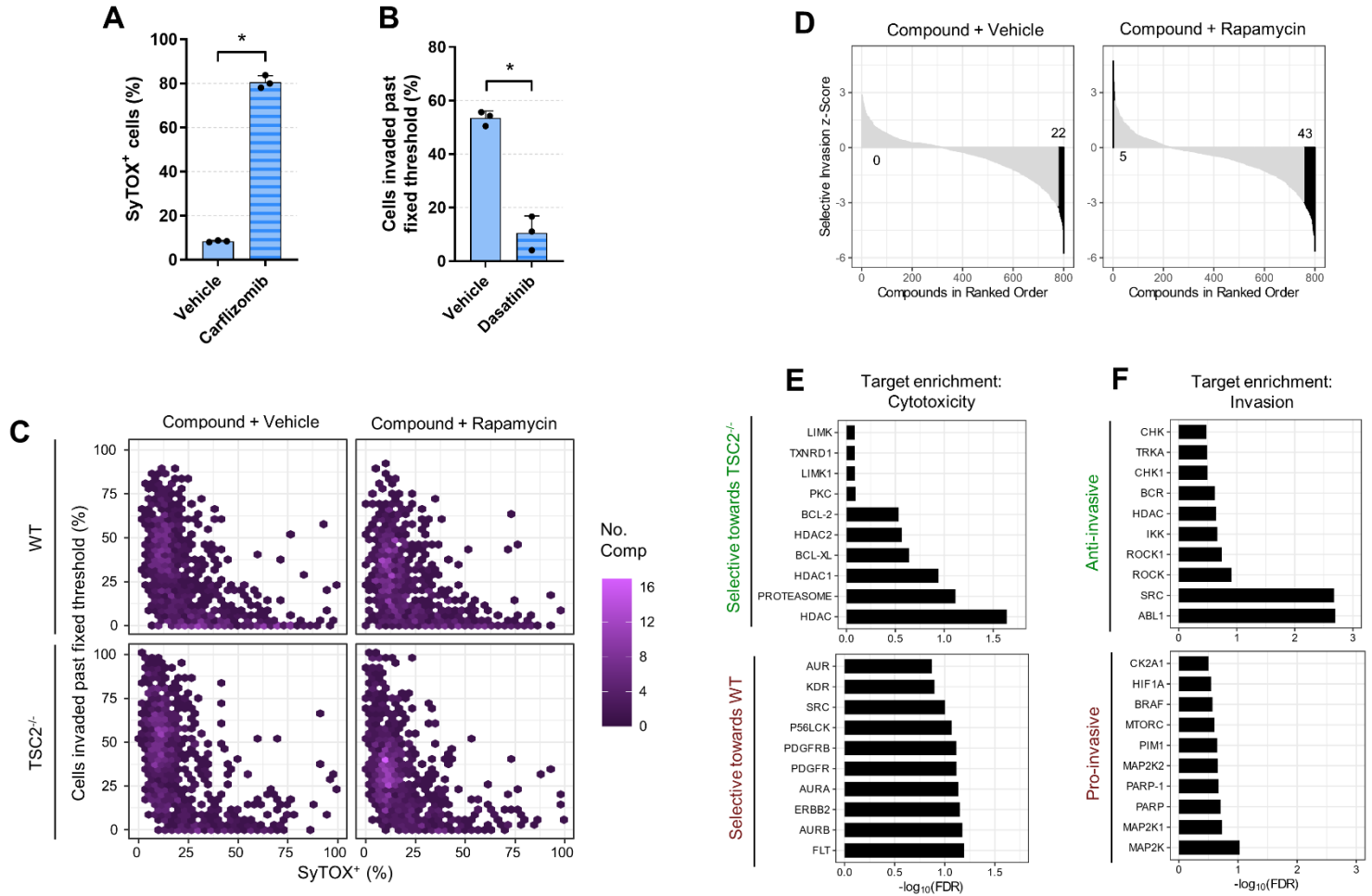


1388 **Fig. S1. Hydrogel culture of stem cell-derived disease models exhibits features of LAM.** (A)
 1389 Schematic of generation of LAM cellular models. (B-C) Quantification of LAM markers by flow
 1390 cytometry from cells in maintenance culture (mean ± SD; * = $p < 0.05$ by Student t-test; $n = 10$).
 1391 (D) Schematic of cell position identification in XYZ planes. (E) Percentage of cells invaded past
 1392 threshold set by 90th percentile invasion distance of bulk cultures, following three-day hydrogel
 1393 culture. Bulk cultures are maintenance cultures of LAM cell lines; clones are populations of cells
 1394 expanded from a single cell isolated from maintenance cultures prior to seeding on hydrogel

1395 (mean \pm data range; no statistical test). (F-G) Volcano plot upon comparing *TSC2*^{-/-} vs. WT cells
1396 (F) and hydrogel vs. plastic samples (G). Points highlighted in black are considered differentially
1397 expressed (FDR < 0.05 and $|\log_2FC| > 1$). The 20 most significantly DEGs are noted. (H)
1398 Overlap in DEG between genotype and culture substrate gene lists; genes considered as DEGs if
1399 FDR < 0.05 and $|\log_2FC| > 1$. (I-J) Dotplot of GO term enrichment analysis of DEG lists (FDR <
1400 0.05 and $|\log_2FC| > 1$) upon comparing *TSC2*^{-/-} vs. WT cells (I) and hydrogel vs. plastic samples
1401 (J). The 25 most significantly enriched terms are plotted.

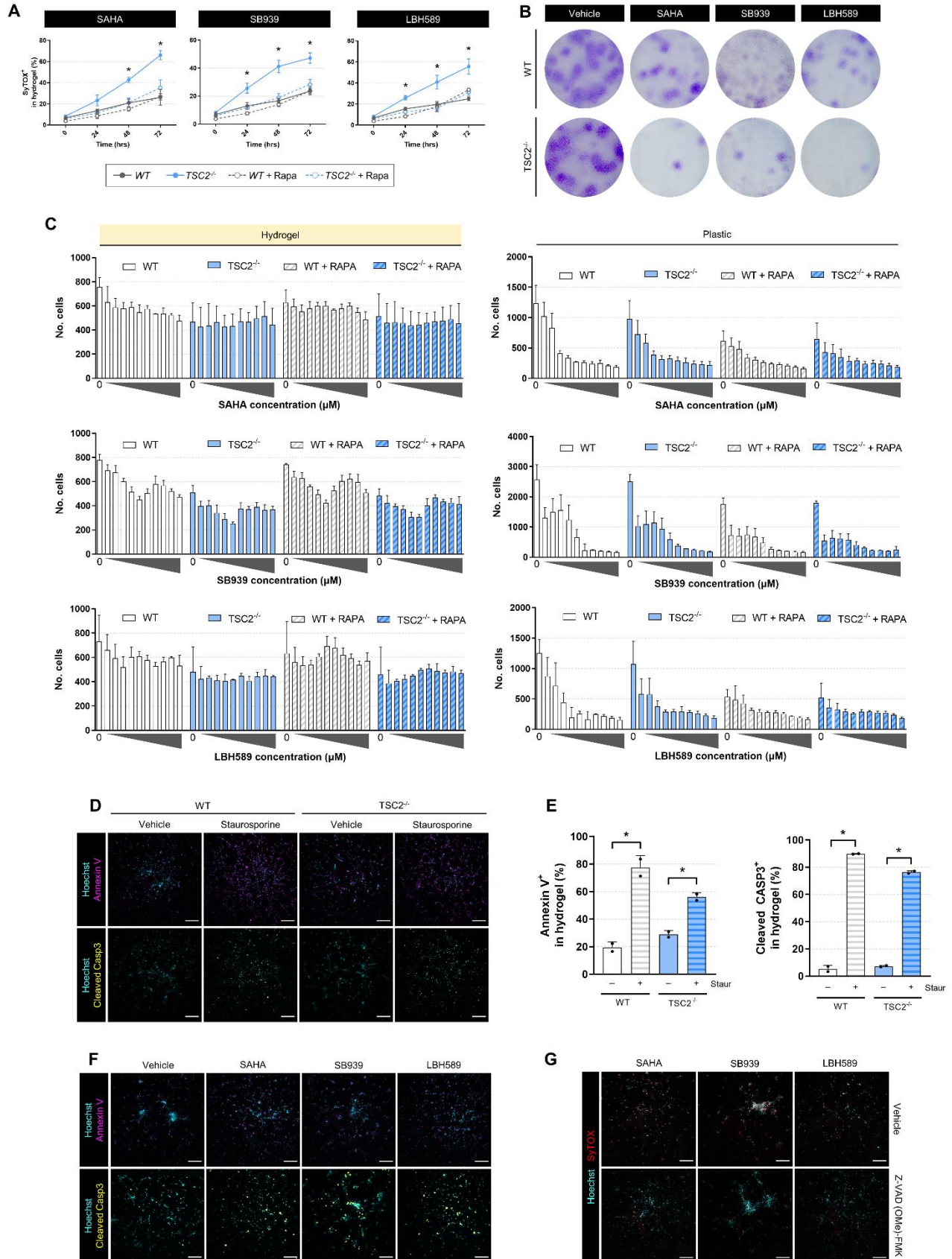


1402 **Fig. S2. Hydrogel culture potentiates differential mTORC1-signalling between WT and**
 1403 **TSC2^{-/-} cells.** (A) Representative maximum intensity projection images used for quantification,
 1404 following culture on hydrogel or plastic for three days \pm 20nM rapamycin. Scale bars of 250 μ m.
 1405 (B) Gene clusters following hierarchal clustering of DEGs found significant (FDR < 0.05) in the
 1406 interaction between genotype and ECM (761 genes). Clustering was based on the pattern of gene
 1407 expression across the 8 employed conditions. The first two clusters are annotated to be enriched
 1408 in sterol synthesis and ribonucleotide metabolism terms. (C) Classification scheme applied to the
 1409 gene clusters visualized in (B). Labelling of Groups A, B, and C is for ease of visualization in
 1410 (B) and does not confer any specific biological meaning.
 1411

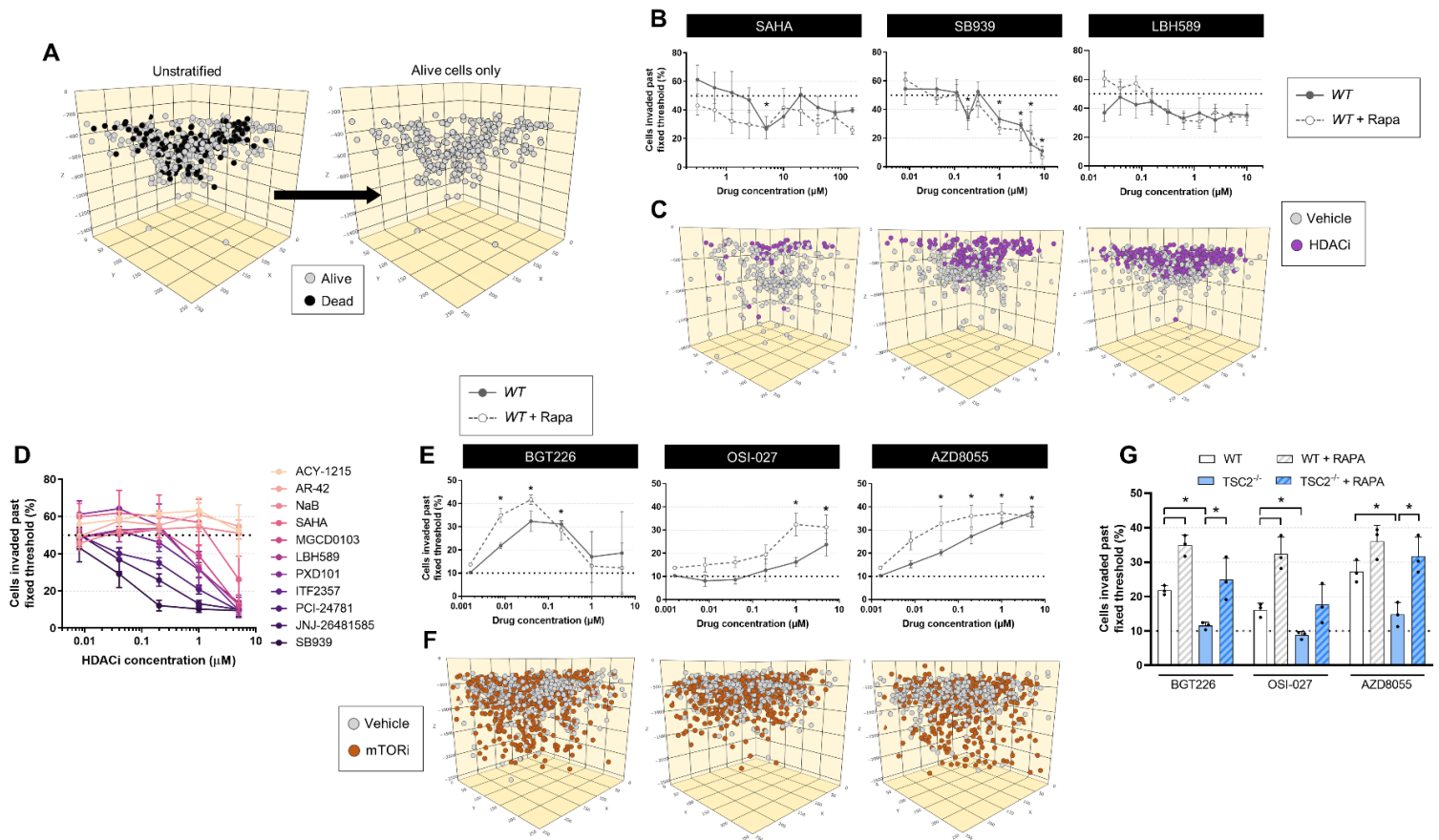


1412 **Fig. S3. Three-dimensional drug screen identifies HDAC inhibitors as anti-invasive and**
 1413 **selectively cytotoxic towards TSC2^{-/-} LAM cells.** (A) Percentage of SyTOX⁺ TSC2^{-/-} cells in
 1414 hydrogel culture for three days ± 200nM carfilzomib (mean ± SD; * = p < 0.05 by Student t-test;
 1415 n = 3). (B) Percentage of TSC2^{-/-} cells invaded past fixed threshold (determined by median
 1416 invasion distance of untreated controls), following three-day hydrogel culture ± 40nM dasatinib
 1417 (mean ± SD; * = p < 0.05 by Student t-test; n = 3). (C) Compound invasion modulation plotted
 1418 against cytotoxicity, separated by genotype and rapamycin treatment. Fixed threshold determined
 1419 by median invasion distance of genotype-specific untreated controls. Hexagonal plot employed
 1420 to demonstrate compound densities. (D) Waterfall plots of compound selective invasion z-scores
 1421 in ranked order; positive values indicate greater anti-invasive effects towards TSC2^{-/-}, negative

1422 values indicate greater anti-invasive effects towards WT. Compounds conferring statistically
1423 significant selective invasion modulation highlighted in black. (E-F) Top 10 most statistically
1424 significant targets enriched in screen data, stratified by screen parameter. Enrichment analysis
1425 was performed via adaptation of the GSEA algorithm, using annotated targets of the compound
1426 library.

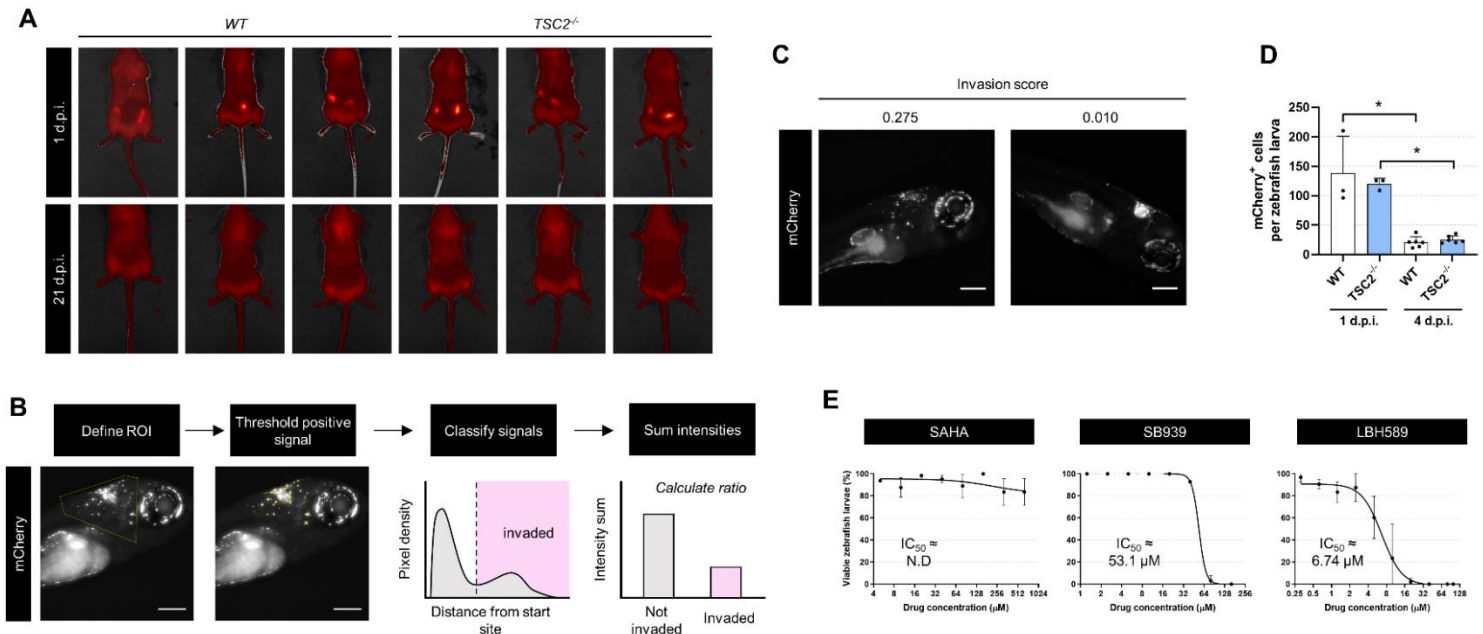


1428 **Fig. S4. Three safe-in-human HDAC inhibitors induce mTORC1-dependent selective**
1429 **cytotoxicity exclusively in hydrogel culture.** (A) Percentage of SyTOX⁺ cells following time-
1430 lapse HDAC inhibitor treatment (20 μ M SAHA, 5 μ M SB939, 1 μ M LBH589) of cells cultured in
1431 hydrogel \pm 20nM rapamycin (mean \pm SD; * = $p < 0.05$ by two-factor ANOVA with Tukey's
1432 post-hoc comparison; $n = 3$). (B) Clonogenic assay following three-day HDAC inhibitor
1433 treatment (20 μ M SAHA, 5 μ M SB939, 1 μ M LBH589) of cells cultured in hydrogel. After
1434 treatment, cells were extracted from hydrogel and replated in 2D to assess clonogenicity. (C)
1435 Number of cells detected in culture by high content imaging following three-day HDAC
1436 inhibitor treatment in hydrogel or plastic culture \pm 20nM rapamycin. Inhibitor concentrations
1437 escalated in two-fold increments: SAHA (0.31 μ M min, 160 μ M max), SB939 (0.04 μ M min,
1438 20 μ M max), and LBH589 (0.02 μ M min, 10 μ M max). Mean \pm SD, $n = 3$. (D-E) Representative
1439 maximum intensity projection images and quantification of live cell imaging dyes used in
1440 hydrogel culture, following 4hr treatment of 1 μ M staurosporine (mean \pm SD; * = $p < 0.05$ by
1441 Student t-test; $n = 2$). Scale bars of 250 μ m. (F-G) Representative maximum intensity projection
1442 images of live cell imaging dyes used in hydrogel culture, following three-day treatment with
1443 HDAC inhibitors (20 μ M SAHA, 5 μ M SB939, 1 μ M LBH589) \pm 25 μ M Z-VAD (OMe)-FMK.
1444 Scale bars of 250 μ m.



1445 **Fig. S5. HDAC inhibitors attenuate cell invasion independent of cytotoxicity while mTOR**
 1446 **inhibitors potentiate the invasion phenotype.** (A) Schematic for removal of SyTOX⁺ cells to
 1447 determine invasion distribution of live cells. (B) Live WT cells invaded past fixed threshold set
 1448 by median invasion distance of vehicle control, upon three-day HDAC inhibitor treatment ±
 1449 20nM rapamycin (mean ± SD; * = $p < 0.05$ by ANOVA with Dunnett post-hoc comparison to
 1450 untreated; $n = 3$). (C) Computational reconstruction of live cell spatial positions upon three-day
 1451 hydrogel culture of WT ± HDAC inhibitor treatment (5 μ M SAHA, 5 μ M SB939, 1 μ M LBH589).
 1452 Note that treated and untreated were in separate wells; cells were plotted in the same volume for
 1453 ease of visualizing relative distances travelled. (D) Effect of 11 HDAC inhibitors on *TSC2*^{-/-} live
 1454 cell invasion ± 20nM rapamycin. Fixed threshold set by median invasion distance of vehicle
 1455 control. (E) Live WT cells invaded past fixed threshold set by 90th percentile invasion distance of

1456 vehicle control, upon three-day mTOR inhibitor treatment \pm 20nM rapamycin (mean \pm SD; * =
1457 $p < 0.05$ by ANOVA with Dunnett post-hoc comparison to untreated; $n = 3$). (F) Computational
1458 reconstruction of live cell spatial positions upon three-day hydrogel culture of WT \pm mTOR
1459 inhibitor treatment (40nM BGT226, 5 μ M OSI-027, 5 μ M AZD8055). (G) Live cells invaded past
1460 fixed threshold set by 90th percentile invasion distance of genotype-matched vehicle control,
1461 upon three-day mTOR inhibitor treatment (8nM BGT226, 1 μ M OSI-027, 200nM AZD8055) \pm
1462 20nM rapamycin (mean \pm SD; * = $p < 0.05$ by Student t-test; $n = 3$).



1463 **Fig. S6. HDAC inhibitors are anti-invasive and selectively cytotoxic towards TSC2^{-/-} cells**

1464 **xenotransplanted into zebrafish.** (A) Visualization of mCherry⁺ cells by IVIS following

1465 subcutaneous transplantation into rear flanks of immunodeficient NSG mice. (B) Schematic

1466 representation of invasion score calculation in zebrafish larvae. See Supplementary Materials and

1467 Methods for more details. Scale bars of 200μm. (C) Representative images of TSC2^{-/-} mCherry⁺

1468 cells disseminated 4 dpi with the associated invasion score. Scale bars of 200μm. (D) Number of

1469 mCherry⁺ cells per zebrafish detected by flow cytometry following whole larvae dissociation at 1

1470 and 4 dpi. Each replicate is a pool of 15 – 20 zebrafish larvae (mean ± SD; * = p < 0.05 by

1471 Student t-test; n = 3 – 6). (E) Dose-toxicity curves of zebrafish larvae treated with HDAC

1472 inhibitors by immersion therapy.

1473 **SUPPLEMENTARY TABLES**

1474

1475 **Table S1.** Differential gene expression analysis of bulk RNA-seq data, untreated samples only.

1476 (A) DEG analysis of genotype (*TSC2*^{-/-} vs. WT), controlling for substrate covariate. (B) DEG

1477 analysis of substrate (hydrogel vs. plastic), controlling for genotype covariate. (C) DEG analysis

1478 of interaction between genotype and ECM.

1479

1480 **Table S2.** GO term enrichment analysis of DEG lists. (A) GO term enrichment in *TSC2*^{-/-} vs. WT

1481 DEG list (FDR < 0.05, |log₂FC| > 1). (B) GO term enrichment in hydrogel vs. plastic DEG list

1482 (FDR < 0.05, |log₂FC| > 1). (C) GO enrichment of genotype:substrate interaction DEG list (FDR

1483 < 0.05).

1484

1485 **Table S3.** Three-dimensional drug screen raw data. (A) Compound information from Ontario

1486 Institute of Cancer Research kinase inhibitor and tool compound libraries. (B-C) Cytotoxicity

1487 and invasion modulation effects of compounds, (B) statistic descriptions and (C) raw data.

1488

1489 **Table S4.** Enrichment results via adaptation of GSEA. Results for statistics of (A) selective

1490 cytotoxicity, positive enrichment (i.e., selectively cytotoxic towards *TSC2*^{-/-}), (B) selective

1491 cytotoxicity, negative enrichment (i.e., selectively cytotoxic towards WT), (C) invasion

1492 modulation, positive enrichment (i.e., attenuate invasion), (D) invasion modulation, negative

1493 enrichment (i.e., potentiate invasion).

1494

1495 **Table S5.** ElionTM structure-based compound analysis. (A-B) Significantly enriched targets and
1496 mechanisms of action by (A) selective cytotoxicity towards *TSC2*^{-/-} cells and (B) invasion
1497 attenuation. (C-D) Significantly enriched GO and PFAM terms (based on significantly enriched
1498 targets) by (C) selective cytotoxicity towards *TSC2*^{-/-} cells and (D) invasion attenuation.

1499 **SUPPLEMENTARY MOVIES**

1500

1501 **Movie S1.** Brightfield Z-stack of WT invading through the hydrogel, counterstained with

1502 Hoechst.

1503

1504 **Movie S2.** Brightfield Z-stack of *TSC2^{-/-}* invading through the hydrogel, counterstained with

1505 Hoechst.

1506