What are the broader implications of this work? First, assuming the in vitro system recapitulates the in vivo scenario, it implies that a similar focus on key transcription factor families is likely to yield important insight into other stem cell pathways. Secondly, this work suggests that these important differences among bioinformatically indistinguishable members of a protein family will need to be deduced using functional assay systems. The use of an in vitro stem cell–based model is one such tool, demonstrating a second and important role for in vitro culture systems for other organs. Will this be a common mechanism for other stem cell systems? That is not yet clear. But the HSC system is providing an important reference paradigm against which other systems can be compared.

Conflict-of-interest disclosure: The author declares no competing financial interests.

REFERENCES
How do platelets prevent bleeding?

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