

Extended Data Figure 1. Pelo is expressed in all skin cell subpopulations and Knockout of Hbs11 leads to mild dermal phenotype (a, b) Pelo and Hbs11 are ubiquitously expressed in all cell populations of embryonic and neonatal skin. mRNA expression data obtained from hair and skin gene expression library (Hair-GEL; www.hair-gel.net). (c) Schematic of *Hbs11* knockout-first allele. (d) Immunolabelling of tail epidermal wholemounts with antibodies to Krt14, Krt15, Lrig1 and FASN. (e) Tail skin sections immunolabelled for Ki67, showing no significant change in the distribution of Ki67+ cells in $Hbs11^{-1}$ epidermis. (f) H&E staining of adult control and Hbs11^{-/-} tail skin. (g) Herovici's polychrome staining to visualize immature (blue) and mature (pink) dermal collagen. (h) Picrosirius staining of tail skin showing the birefringence of collagen fibers against a black background. (i) Immunostaining of tail skin sections with pan-keratin (PanKrt) and vimentin (Vim) antibodies. (j-m) Quantification of dermal thickness (j), dermal cell density (k), dermal cellularity (l) and total collagen deposition (m). Dashed lines mark epidermal-dermal boundary. Scale bars 100 μ m. *p = 0.0286 in (j, m). FKPM - Fragments per Kilobase of transcript Per Million mapped reads.



Extended Data Figure 2. Delayed wound closure in *Pelo* null epidermis (a) Histology of skin 10 days post wound (dpw) shows delayed wound closure in *Pelo*^{epiKO}. (b, c) EdU staining of 10 dpw skin shows reduced proliferation in wound bed. Itgα6 staining demarcates dermal-epidermal boundary, Box indicates the wound bed (d) Histology of 5 dpw wound shows altered epidermal architecture. (e, f) EdU labelling of 5 dpw skin shows reduced proliferation at wound edge. (g, h) Immunostaining of Krt14 in 10 and 5 dpw skin shows abnormal differentiation in *Pelo*^{epiKO} (arrows). (i) TdTomato genetic labeling shows the contribution of Lrig1, Lgr5 and Lgr6 progeny in tail wound healing. Note that altered migration of Lrig1 cells in *Pelo*^{fl/fl}; *Lrig1*^{CreERT}; tdTom when compared to Lgr5 and Lgr6 on *Pelo* deletion. *p = 0.0123 in (c), *p = 0.0330 in (e). Scale bars, 100 µm.



Extended Data Figure 3. *Pelo* deletion leads to progressive hair follicle and sebaceous gland abnormalities (a, b, c) Confocal images of tail epidermal wholemounts immunostained for Krt14, hair follicle bulge markers CD34 and Krt15, sebocyte maturation marker Fatty acid synthase (FASN) and junctional zone stem cell marker Lrig1 show progressive changes in hair follicle and sebaceous gland structure from P16 to P120 in *Pelo*^{epiKO} mice. Note that the FASN staining in P84 and P120 *Pelo*^{epiKO} epidermis is non-specific due to highly keratinized hair follicles. Asterisks in (b) indicate non-specific staining of sebaceous glands. Scale bars, 100 μm.



Extended Data Figure 4. Postnatal epidermal Pelo deletion impairs barrier function and wound healing (a, b) Breeding scheme and topical Tamoxifen (4-OHT) treatment regime. (c) Representative *Pelo*^{fl/fl}; *Krt14*^{CreERT} mouse showing skin lesions (dashed area) in 4-OHT-treated dorsal skin. (d) TEWL is increased in 4-OHT-treated skin of *Pelo^{fl/fl}; Krt14^{CreERT}*mice. (e) Rate of wound closure. (f) Tail epidermal wholemounts immunostained with Krt14 and Krt15 antibodies showing altered sebaceous gland architecture (arrows) in 4-OHT-treated *Pelo^{fl/fl}; Krt14^{CreERT}* mice. (g) Tail epidermal wholemounts from TdTomato (red) genetically labelled Pelo^{fl/fl}; Krt14^{CreERT} mice show keratinized cysts in hair follicles (arrows). (h) Cumulative mean values of gene expression obtained from ribosome profiling show downregulation of markers of sebaceous gland differentiation and increase in Myc. (i) Tail epidermal wholemounts showing altered expression of FASN, Scd1 and Lrig1 (arrows) in sebaceous glands of 4-OHT-treated *Pelo^{fl/fl}; Krt14^{CreERT}* mice (middle and right panels). Dashed lines indicate pilosebaceous units. Scale bars, 100 μ m. **p = 0.0072, *p = 0.0650, n. s., non significant. n = 3 in treated and untreated control groups.



Extended Data Figure 5. Knockdown of PELO in human keratinocytes phenocopies mouse epidermal phenotype and proliferation difference in mice lacking Pelo in Lrig1, Lgr5 and Lgr6 stem cells. (a-d) PELO knockdown validation. (a) qRT-PCR for individual siRNAs transfected in human primary keratinocytes. (b) Clonal growth. (c, d) colony number and average size of individual colonies. (e-g) Clonal growth of keratinocytes, comparing pooled PELO siRNA knockdown (PELO^{siRNA}) and scrambled (Scr) control. (h-l) Effect of PELO knockdown in human epidermal reconstitution assay on decellularised dermis. (h, i) Epidermal thickness of DED cultures is significantly increased on PELO knockdown. (i-l) Immunolabelling for Krt14 (K14), Ki67, p63 and differentiation markers Krt10 (K10) and involucrin (IVL) shows increased number of differentiated cell layers (j) and increased number of cells expressing Ki67 and p63 (k, l) in PELO^{siRNA} reconstituted epidermis. Dashed lines indicated dermal-epidermal boundary. Assessing proliferation by Ki67 and p63 in the dorsal skin IFE sections of mice lacking *Pelo* in Lrig1, Lgr5 and Lgr6 stem cells. Scale bars, 100 μ m. ***p = 0.0009 (a, for siRNA#10), ***p = 0.0004 (a, for siRNA#11), **p = 0031 (a, for siRNA#12); *p = 0.0286 (c); *p = 0.0286 (d); **p = 0.0022 (f); **p = 0.0087 (g); ****p = <0.0001 (i); *p = 0.0229 for Ki67 and *p = 0.0107 for p63 (l). n = 2 independent transfections; n = 3 dishes (a - g) and n = 2 sections of reconstituted epidermis (h, l).



Extended Data Figure 6. Lrig1+ stem cells account for *Pelo* mutant epidermal phenotype (a) Tail epidermal wholemounts labeled with Krt14 and Ki67 antibodies, showing increased proliferation and alterations to the junctional zone (asterisks) and sebaceous glands (arrow) in *Pelo*^{fl/fl}; *Lrig1*^{CreERT2} mice. (b) Cross section of dorsal skin stained for EdU shows increased proliferation and alterations in HF infundibulum structure (arrow) in *Pelo*^{fl/fl}; *Lrig1*^{CreERT2} mice. (c-e) Confocal images of tail epidermal wholemounts (c, e) and dorsal skin sections (d) of tdTomato labelled *Pelo*^{fl/fl}; *Lrig1*^{CreERT2} and *Pelo*^{fl/fl}; *Lgr6*^{CreERT2} mice. (c, d) Expansion of tdTomato-labelled Lrig1 (arrows) but not Lgr5 or Lgr6 progeny upon *Pelo* deletion. (e, f) Increase in proliferation (Ki67 labelling) of Lrig1 (arrows) but not Lgr5 and Lgr6 populations. Scale bars, 100 µm. **p* = 0.0047 (f). n = 3-4 mice per group. All mice were in telogen of the hair cycle (2-3 months old) when treated with 4-OHT. Treatment regime and harvest of tissue were as indicated in Fig. 2c. Dashed lines mark epidermal boundary.



Extended Data Figure 7. *Pelo* knockout epidermal cells do not accumulate **3'UTR footprints** (a) Empiric cumulative distribution plots of relative 3'UTR ribosome occupancy for all transcripts or (b) those with at least 1 read mapped to the 3'UTR. (c-e) Gene Ontology of genes differentially expressed in *Pelo*-null epidermis. Functional, component and process categories of genes enriched in *Pelo*^{epiKO}.



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-log(p-value)

Extended Data Figure 8. Computational analysis of differentially regulated pathways between control and *Pelo^{epiKO}* and comparison of molecular signatures in *Pelo^{epiKO}* and Gtpbp2-deficient brain (a) Number of genes that were differentially expressed in *Pelo^{epiKO}* and control epidermis and their associated functions. (b, c) Ingenuity Pathway Analysis showing changes in mTOR pathway genes in *Pelo^{epiKO}* vs control epidermis (b) and their predicted molecular activities (c). (d) Venn diagram shows common differentially expressed genes in our study and that of Ishimura et al (2014) when comparing Ctrl and mutants. The 314 overlapping genes are enriched in top canonical pathways that are highly related to translation.



Extended Data Figure 9. *Pelo* epidermal deletion results in increased protein synthesis and basal stem cell size and Rapamycin treatment reduces proliferation of *Pelo*-null epidermis

(a) Gating strategy for measurement of OP-Puromycin incorporation in cell populations (b, c) Confocal images of tail and ear epidermal wholemounts immunolabelled for Krt14 and P-cadherin (P-Cad), showing IFE basal cells. (d, e) Representative flow cytometric dot plot showing increased cell size (FSC-A) of Itg $\alpha 6^{high}$ cells and altered S and G2/M cell cycle phases in *Pelo^{epiKO}* epidermis. (f, g) Breeding scheme and rapamycin treatment regime. (h) Immunolabelling of tail epidermal wholemounts with Krt14 and Ki67 antibodies shows reduced proliferation in rapamycin-treated mice compared to vehicle-treated group. Note that there was no significant change in epidermal proliferation of control mice treated with rapamycin when compared to vehicle treated mice. (i, j) Cross sections of IFE from Pelo^{epiKO} and control back skin immunolabelled with Krt14 and Ki67 antibodies, showing significant reduction in Ki67+ and suprabasal Krt14+ cells in rapamycin-treated compared to vehicle-treated mice. (k) Cross sections of IFE from control and *Pelo*^{epiKO} back skin immunolabelled with Krt14 and pS6K antibodies showing marked increase in pS6K labeling indicating mTOR hyperactivation in vehicle-treated Pelo^{epiKO} skin. (1) Cross sections of IFE of control and Pelo^{fl/fl}; Krt14^{CreERT} mice (with simultaneous 4-OHT and Rapamycin treatment) immunolabelled for Krt14 and EdU showing significant reduction in EdU+ and suprabasal Krt14+ cells in rapamycintreated compared to vehicle-treated mice. (m) Cross sections of IFE of control and *Pelo*^{fl/fl}; *Krt14*^{CreERT} mice (with simultaneous 4-OHT and Rapamycin treatment) immunolabelled for Krt14 and p4EBP antibodies. Note reduced pS6K labeling (k) and p4EBP1 (m) in rapamycin-treated epidermis. Gray scale images for pS6K are

shown below merged images. Scale bars, 100 μ m. *p = 0.0132 in (j), n. s., non significant. n = 3 mice in all groups. Dashed lines mark epidermal-dermal boundary.



Extended Data Figure 10. RNA-sequencing of Lrig1+, Lgr5+ and Lgr6+ cells reveals Lgr5 as a transcriptionally unique subpopulation and subtle changes in transcription in all subpopulations when Pelo is deleted. (a) Schematic illustration of the EGFP^{high} sorting and RNA-seq strategy for control and Pelo-deleted subpopulations using *Pelo*^{fl/fl}; *Lrig1*^{EGFP-CreERT2}, *Pelo*^{fl/fl}; *Lgr5*^{EGFP-CreERT2} and *Pelo*^{fl/fl}; Lgr6^{EGFP-CreERT2} mice. (b) Principal component analysis of RNA-seq data shows that the Lgr5 subpopulation is remarkably different from the other two. Note that there is no major change in the clusters when *Pelo* is deleted in any of the subpopulations. (c) Hierarchical clustering of the subpopulations corroborates minimal transcriptional changes between control and Mut mice, revealing two major clusters, one for Lgr5 and another for Lrig1 and Lgr6. (d) Venn diagram illustrating the differentially expressed genes in common between the 3 subpopulations when comparing control and Mut. (e) Top differentially regulated transcription factors between Lrig1 and Lgr5 (f), Lgr5 and Lgr6 (g) and Lrig1 and Lgr6 control subpopulations. (h-j) Top differentially regulated canonical pathways between Lrig1 and Lgr5 (h), Lgr5 and Lgr6 (i) and Lrig1 and Lgr6 control subpopulations (j). (k) Schematic of epidermis showing location of marker expression and the various transgenic mice used in this study.