Supporting Information

Supplemental Figures and Figure Captions



Supplemental Movie 1. 3D μ -tissue suspensions. 3D μ -tissues containing pre-assembly red quantum dot codes, manipulated by manual pipetting under a UV lamp.



Supplemental Movie 2. 3D μ -tissue suspensions in channel. 3D μ -tissues containing preassembly red quantum dot codes in a poly(dimethylsiloxane) (PDMS) microfluidic channel adhered to a glass coverslip, with flow driven by a syringe pump.



Supplemental Movie 3. Confocal imaging and 3D projection of engineered μ -tissues. 3D μ tissues co-encapsulating BMEL cells and pre-assembly red quantum dot codes were incubated with the green calcein AM viability dye, then mounted using Fluoromount-G mounting medium (Southern Biotech) on a 35-mm glass bottom dish (Mattek) with a 22 cm² coverslip. Confocal zstack images and 3D projections were acquired using a Zeiss Laser Scanning Miroscope (LSM) 510 confocal microscope (W.M. Keck Microscopy Facility, Whitehead Institute) and accompanying LSM software.



Supplemental Figure 1. Overview of µ-tissue cytometric analysis capabilities.

Schematic illustrating flow analysis and enrichment of μ -tissues based on multiple parameters. These include measurements of μ -tissue size (time-of-flight, TOF) and optical density (extinction, EXT), optical encoding for multiplexed parallel analysis, and fluorescent readouts of cellular gene expression and function.



Supplemental Figure 2. Flow sorting progenitor µ-tissues with a fluorescent reporter.

A) 3D BMEL μ -tissues and 3D GFP+ BMEL μ -tissues were mixed as shown in the schematic inset, then analyzed for reporter gene expression using flow cytometry (n=278 tissues). Compared to control BMEL μ -tissues, the mean fluorescence intensity of the GFP+ reporter μ -tissues population was measured as ~32-fold higher. Fluorescence-activated sorting based on reporter expression enabled separation of GFP- and GFP+ μ -tissues. B) Representative epifluorescence micrographs of enriched GFP- and GFP+ μ -tissues sorted into a 96-well plate, and counterstained with Hoescht nuclear stain. The inset shows a lower magnification image of the entire 30 cm² well area. (Scale bar, 200 μ m.)



Supplemental Figure 3. Near infrared (NIR) scanning and quantification of post-assembly (*post-hoc*) labeled μ -tissues. Post-assembly (*post-hoc*) labeled μ -tissues in a 96-well plate were imaged using the Odyssey IR imaging system (LI-COR) at a scanning resolution of 42 μ m. NIR scanning demonstrates diffusion and retention of the solution NIR code, and counts based on decoded images enable quantification. Linear regression analysis confirmed a strong positive correlation between representative counts from decoded IR images and manual counts from phase images (R²=0.989 for λ =700, R²=0.980 for λ =800). Error bars represent s.d. of the mean (*n*=2). (Scale bar, 1 mm.)



Supplemental Figure 4. Multiplex encoding of gene knockdown and drug treatment, and quantified effects of combination therapy on 3D hepatoma µ-tissue viability. A) Experimental design and schematic of multiplexing experiment. 3D hepatoma u-tissues subject to different 'gene' conditions were fabricated by encapsulating control (Lipofectamine-treated) or BCL-XL siRNA-treated HepG2 cells, along with pre-assembly green particle or unlabeled tags. The u-tissues were also fabricated to contain biotin particle templates for *post-hoc* reaction with different 'drug' solutions, 20 nM or 2 µM doxorubicin (DOXO), containing post-assembly streptavidin-NIR soluble labels (700 λ or 750 λ). Multiplexed u-tissue mixtures were pooled and collectively stained with the red calcein AM live dye. Using cytometric analysis, u-tissues were assessed simultaneously for pre-assembly code identification (green fluorescence) and viability (red fluorescence) (1), and fluorescence-activated sorted for μ -tissue responders with viability below a threshold defined by non-viable controls (red line) (2). Post-assembly, post-hoc codes were later resolved using NIR scanning to quantify µ-tissue exposure. B) High resolution (42 μm) NIR scans of a 96-well plate following flow-activated analysis and sorting for μ-tissue responders (Low Viability), and general u-tissue population samples (All). Sorting criteria is denoted by gates R1, R2, R3 and R4 depicted in Figure 5B. C) Count data from NIR scans of sorted u-tissues, represented as % of total utissues. D) Quantification example, depicting how data from NIR scans and data from u-tissue cytometry plot are formulated to define the "%utissues below viability threshold" value for each combination of DOXO±siRNA treatment. (Scale bar, 1 mm.)



Supplemental Figure 5. Determination of viability threshold for identifying μ -tissues responsive to gene knockdown versus drug treatment or combined therapies. Flow histogram of red fluorescence depicts intensity of red calcein AM staining in different 3D hepatoma μ -tissue populations (control μ -tissues, BCL-XL siRNA-treated μ -tissues, and control μ -tissues incubated in lysis buffer). The "viability threshold" was set by gating for the lysed, least viable μ -tissue population, and this threshold was subsequently used to identify within flow cytometric plots the μ -tissue events with the greatest response to therapy (lowest viability).



Supplemental Figure 6. Synergy between drug treatment and siRNA-mediated knockdown. To test the effect of doxorubicin and BCL-XL gene knockdown on HepG2 cells in a 2D multiwell format, HepG2 cells were seeded at 7,500 cells/well in a 96-well plate and cultured for 24h prior to siRNA transfection. Cells were transfected with 100 nM BCL-XL ON-TARGET plus SMARTpool siRNA (NM_001191, Dharmacon) or 100 nM Lamin A siRNA (NM_019290, Ambion), using Lipofectamine RNAi max (Invitrogen) according to manufacturer's instructions. Twenty-four hours following transfection, cells were dosed daily for 2d with doxorubicin HCl (0, 0.1, 0.5, 1.0, 2.0, 4.0 μ M, Sigma). Viability was assessed utilizing green calcein AM labeling and fluorimetry (485/530 nm ex/em). Error bars represent s.d. of the mean (*n*=2). Statistical significance was determined using one-way ANOVA followed by Tukey's multiple comparison test (* *p*<0.01, relative to control/4.0 μ m doxorubicin sample, *p*<0.05 relative to all other conditions treated with 4.0 μ m doxorubicin).