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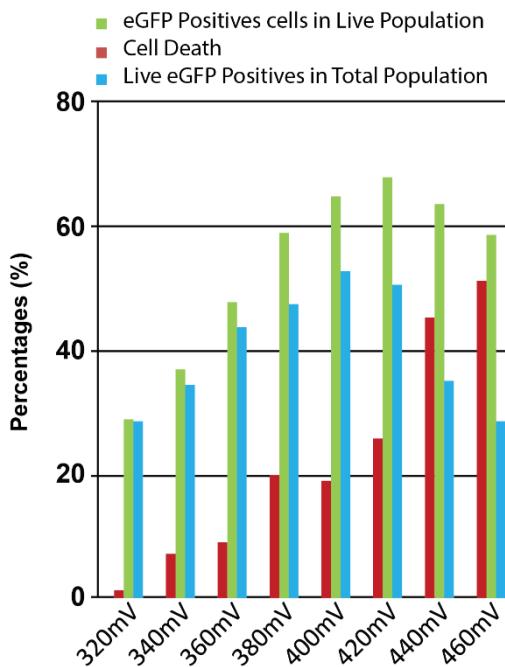


Figure S1. Flow cytometry of electroporated MEL cell line. Optimization of plasmid electroporation conditions in MEL cells. MEL cells were analyzed by flow cytometry 48 h after delivering the GFP reporter plasmid by electroporation, using a range of voltages and constant 1050 μ F capacitance. Cell death (% SYTOX Red positives) was background-corrected for that of the non-electroporated negative control ($\approx 20\%$, not shown). Optimal electroporation conditions (highlighted in yellow) were those with the highest percentage of live GFP positives in the total population (400 mV and 1050 μ F).

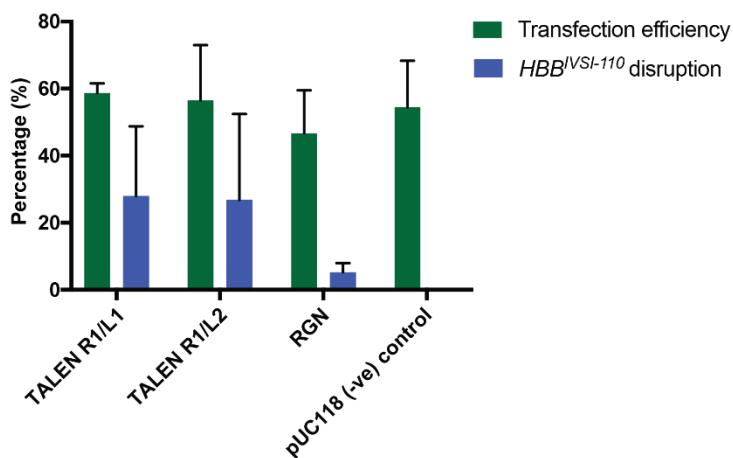


Figure S2. Transfection and targeted disruption efficiencies in MEL HBB^{IVS} bulk cells. Transfection efficiency is shown as the average percentage of GFP positives measured by flow cytometry 48 h post-electroporation (green bars), and percentages of $HBB^{IVS1-110(G>A)}$ -targeted disruption on day 5 post-electroporation of (recovered) MEL HBB^{IVS} bulk populations as measured by the T7E1 assay (blue bars). All displayed data comprised the average values of biological triplicates ($n = 3; \pm SD$).

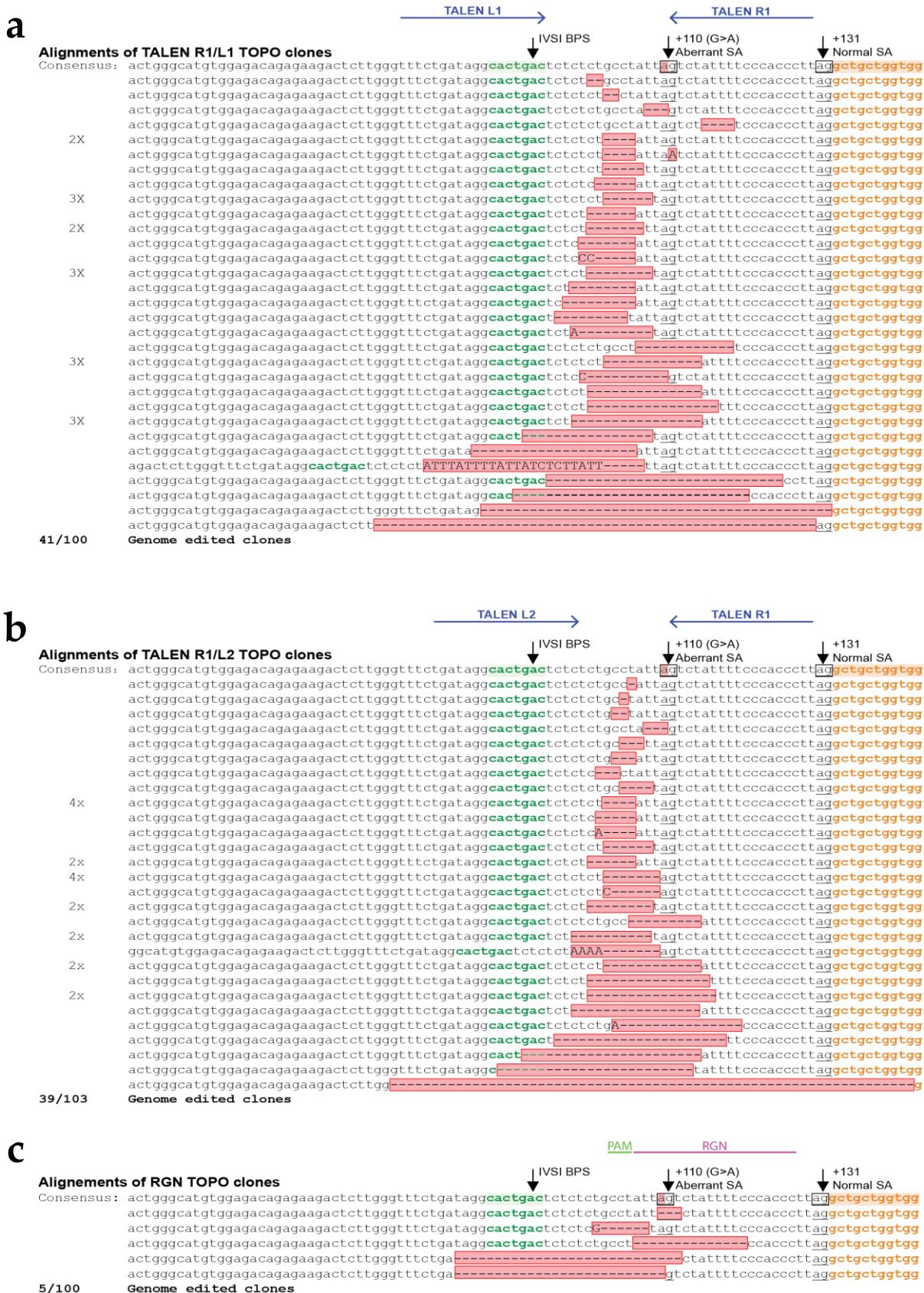


Figure S3. Characterization of TALEN- and RGN-induced indels in MEL-HBB^{IVS} as bacterial clones. Alignments of TOPO clones holding disrupted HBB^{IVS1-110(G>A)} amplicons derived from HBB TALEN R1/L1 (**a**), TALEN R1/L2 (**b**) and RGN (**c**) genome-modified bulk MEL-HBB^{IVS} populations. TOPO clones were aligned primarily based on the size of the indel and secondarily based on indel proximity

to the normal splice acceptor site (+131 Normal SA). Intron 1 is shown unshaded, the intron-1 branchpoint site (IVSI BPS) in green, exon 2 in orange, the $HBB^{IVSI-110(G>A)}$ mutation in red, and the NHEJ-induced indels in pink. Aberrant (+110 (G>A) Aberrant SA) and normal (+131 Normal SA) splice acceptor sites are underlined (ag) sequences on the consensus sequence. Combined editing events of insertions (upper case) and deletions are shown. Binding sites of TALEN monomers are shown as blue arrows (A and B) and RGN gRNA and PAM sequence as purple and green lines (C) above each consensus sequence.

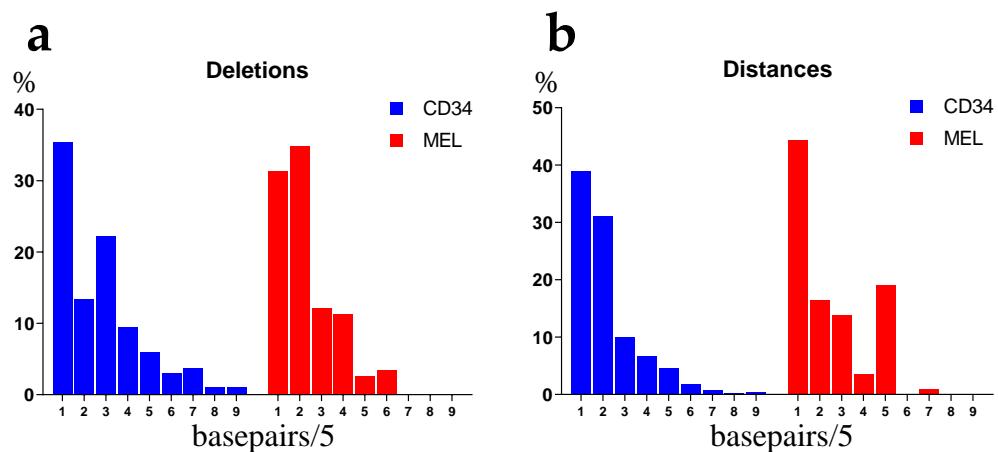


Figure S4. Comparison of TALEN data in CD34+ and MEL cells. Frequencies (a) of deletion sizes of the original $HBB^{IVSI-110(G>A)}$ on-target sequence and (b) the greatest distance of deletions from the predicted cleavage site are compared for $HBB^{IVSI-110(G>A)}$ -homozygous CD34⁺ cells [1] and MEL-HBBIVS cells (this study) after categorization in bin sizes of five base pairs. The Spearman constant for the correlation of the categorized data is 0.865 (p value of correlation: 0.007) for (a) and 0.848 (p value of correlation: 0.005) for (b). The Spearman constant for the underlying uncategorized data is 0.786 (p value of correlation: 3.196×10^{-12}) for (a) and 0.745 (P value of correlation: 1.580×10^{-10}) for (b).

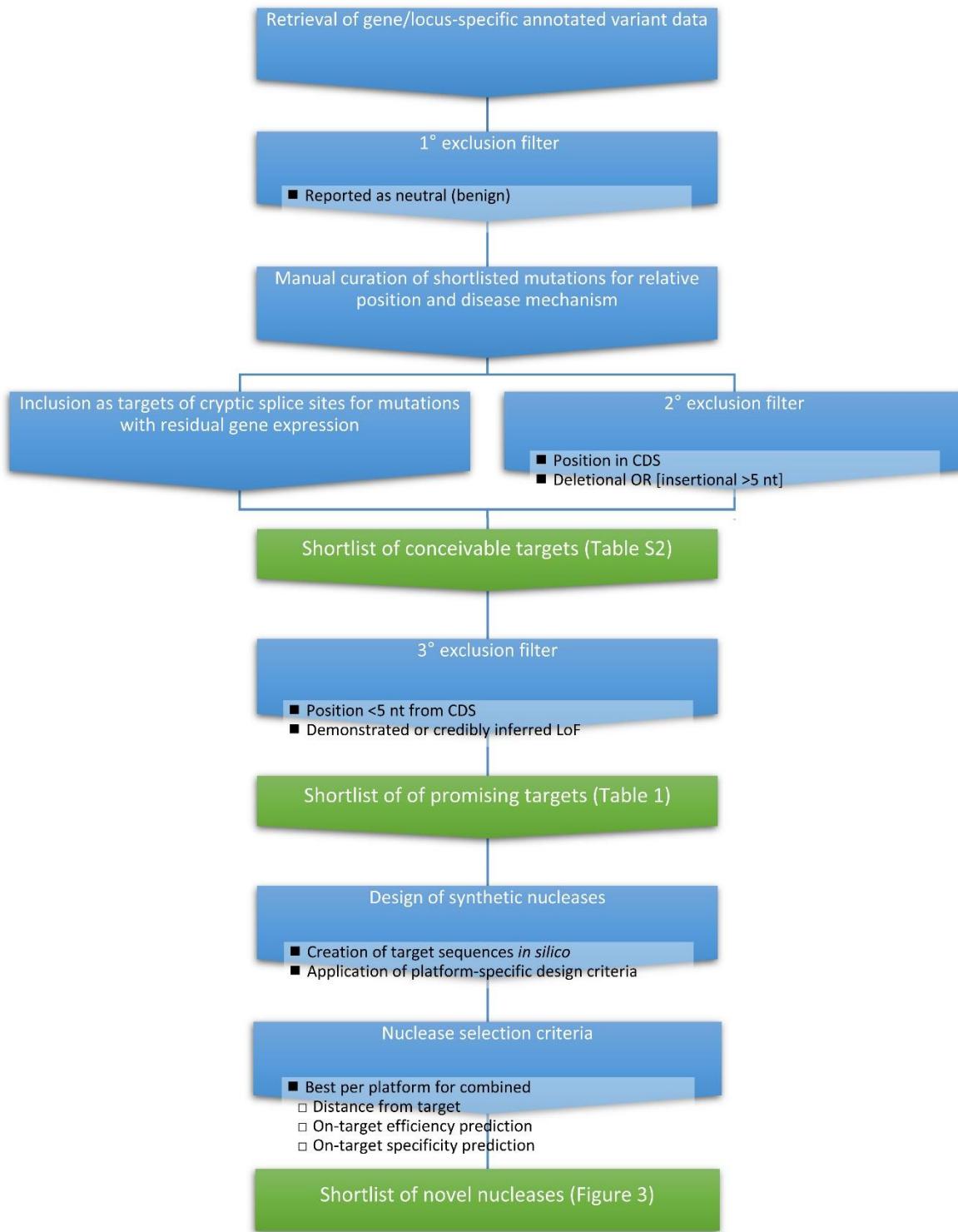


Figure S5. Schematic workflow of the DARE target and nuclease compilation for new target loci. 2° and 3° exclusion filters can be combined, where a list of conceivable targets is not of interest. CDS—coding sequence; LoF—loss of function; nt—nucleotide.

2. Supplementary Tables

Table S1. Known β-thalassemia mutations passing initial filter criteria for analysis.

| IthaID ¹ | Common Name | HGVS Name | Type of mutation | Region | Exon ^{→2} | References |
|---------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|---|----------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 3081 ³ | -223 T>C | HBB:c.-273T>C | Likely RE ⁴ LoF ⁵ | Upstream promoter | 273 nt ⁶ | [2] |
| 1 | -190 G>A | HBB:c.-240G>A | Likely RE LoF | Upstream promoter | 240 nt | [3] |
| 2 | -102 C>A | HBB:c.-152C>A | RE LoF | CACCC box, distal | 152 nt | [4] |
| 3 | -101 C>T | HBB:c.-151C>T | RE LoF | CACCC box, distal | 151 nt | [5] |
| 4 | -101 C>G | HBB:c.-151C>G | RE LoF | CACCC box, distal | 151 nt | [6] |
| 3059 | -98 T>A | HBB:c.-148T>A | Possible RE LoF | near CACCC boxes | 148 nt | [7] |
| 5 | -93 C>G | HBB:c.-143C>G | RE LoF | near CACCC boxes | 143 nt | ITHANET ⁷ |
| 6 | -92 C>T | HBB:c.-142C>T | RE LoF | near CACCC boxes | 142 nt | [8] |
| 7 | -90 C>T | HBB:c.-140C>T | RE LoF | CACCC box, proximal | 140 nt | [7] |
| 3224 | -90 C>G | HBB:c.-140C>G | RE LoF | CACCC box, proximal | 140 nt | [9] |
| 8 | -88 C>T | HBB:c.-138C>T | RE LoF | CACCC box, proximal | 138 nt | [7] |
| 9 | -88 C>A | HBB:c.-138C>A | RE LoF | CACCC box, proximal | 138 nt | [10] |
| 2178 | -88 C>G | HBB:c.-138C>G | RE LoF | CACCC box, proximal | 138 nt | [11] |
| 10 | -87 C>G | HBB:c.-137C>G | RE LoF | CACCC box, proximal | 137 nt | [12] |
| 11 | -87 C>T | HBB:c.-137C>T | RE LoF | CACCC box, proximal | 137 nt | [13] |
| 12 | -87 C>A | HBB:c.-137C>A | RE LoF | CACCC box, proximal | 137 nt | [14] |
| 13 | -86 C>G | HBB:c.-136C>G | RE LoF | CACCC box, proximal | 136 nt | [15] |
| 14 | -86 C>A | HBB:c.-136C>A | RE LoF | CACCC box, proximal | 136 nt | [13] |
| 3077 | -83 G>A | HBB:c.-133G>A | Possible RE LoF | near CACCC & CCAAT | 133 nt | [16] |
| 3069 | -77 G>C | HBB:c.-127G>C | Possible RE LoF | near CACCC & CCAAT | 127 nt | [17] |
| 3386 | -76 C>A | HBB:c.-126C>A | RE LoF | CCAAT box | 126 nt | [18] |
| 15 | -73 A>T | HBB:c.-123A>T | RE LoF | CCAAT box | 123 nt | [19] |
| 2997 | -72 T>A | HBB:c.-122T>A | RE LoF | CCAAT box | 122 nt | [20] |
| 2171 | -71 C>T | HBB:c.-121C>T | Likely RE LoF | DRE ⁸ | 121 nt | [21] |
| 3043 | -71 C>T | HBB:c.-121C>T | Likely RE LoF | DRE | 121 nt | [11] |
| 16 | -56 G>C | HBB:c.-106G>C | Likely RE LoF | DRE | 106 nt | [3] |
| 17 | -50 G>A | HBB:c.-100G>A | Likely RE LoF | DRE | 100 nt | [22] |
| 3060 | -42 C>G | HBB:c.-92C>G | Likely RE LoF | DRE | 92 nt | [7] |
| 2172 | -41 A>T | HBB:c.-91A>C | Likely RE LoF | DRE | 91 nt | [23] |
| 18 | -32 C>A | HBB:c.-82C>A | Likely RE LoF | DRE | 82 nt | [24] |
| 19 | -32 C>T | HBB:c.-82C>T | Likely RE LoF | DRE | 82 nt | [25] |
| 20 | -31 A>G | HBB:c.-81A>G | RE LoF | TATA (ATAAA) box | 81 nt | [26] |
| 21 | -31 A>C | HBB:c.-81A>C | RE LoF | TATA (ATAAA) box | 81 nt | [27] |
| 22 | -30 T>A | HBB:c.-80T>A | RE LoF | TATA (ATAAA) box | 80 nt | [28] |
| 23 | -30 T>C | HBB:c.-80T>C | RE LoF | TATA (ATAAA) box | 80 nt | [29] |
| 2179 | -30 T>G | HBB:c.-80T>G | RE LoF | TATA (ATAAA) box | 80 nt | [11] |
| 25 | -29 A>G | HBB:c.-79A>G | RE LoF | TATA (ATAAA) box | 79 nt | [30] |
| 26 | -29 A>C | HBB:c.-79A>C | RE LoF | TATA (ATAAA) box | 79 nt | [31] |
| 28 | -28 A>C | HBB:c.-78A>C | RE LoF | TATA (ATAAA) box | 78 nt | [32] |
| 29 | -28 A>G | HBB:c.-78A>G | RE LoF | TATA (ATAAA) box | 78 nt | [33] |
| 30 | -27 A>T | HBB:c.-77A>T | Likely RE LoF | near TATA (ATAAA) | 77 nt | [34] |
| 2175 | -26 A>C | HBB:c.-76A>C | Likely RE LoF | near TATA (ATAAA) | 76 nt | [23] |
| 32 | -25 G>C | HBB:c.-75G>C | Likely RE LoF | near TATA (ATAAA) | 75 nt | [25] |
| 2565 | -25 G>T | HBB:c.-75G>T | Likely RE LoF | near TATA (ATAAA) | 75 nt | [35] |
| 34 | CAP +1 A>C | HBB:c.-50A>C | LoF | 5' UTR | 50 nt | [36] |
| 3464 | CAP +3 A>T | HBB:c.-48A>T | LoF | CAP initiator element | 48 nt | [37] |
| 35 | CAP +8 C>T | HBB:c.-43C>T | Likely LoF | 5' UTR | 43 nt | [38] |
| 36 | CAP +10 -T | HBB:c.-41delT | Mild LoF | 5' UTR | 41 nt | [39] |
| 2494 | CAP +16 A>G | HBB:c.-35A>G | Mild LoF | 5' UTR | 35 nt | [40] |
| 3345 | CAP +22 G>T | HBB:c.-29G>T | Mild LoF | 5' UTR | 29 nt | [41] |
| 38 | CAP +22 G>A | HBB:c.-29G>A | Mild LoF | 5' UTR | 29 nt | [42] |
| 2536 | CAP +30 T>A | HBB:c.-21T>A | Mild LoF | 5' UTR | 21 nt | [43] |
| 39 | CAP +33 C>G | HBB:c.-18C>G | Mild LoF | 5' UTR | 18 nt | [44] |
| 2176 | CAP +39 C>T | HBB:c.-12C>T | Mild LoF | 5' UTR | 12 nt | [45] |
| 40 | CAP +40 to +43 | HBB:c.-11_-(-AAAC) 8delAAAC | LoF | 5' UTR | 8 nt | [46] |
| 41 | CAP +45 (G>C) | HBB:c.-6G>C | Mild LoF | 5' UTR, Kozak sequence | 6 nt | [47] |
| 107 | IVS I-5 G>A | HBB:c.92+5G>C | Activation of cSD ⁹ ; partial SD LoF | SD ¹⁰ -proximal | 5 nt | [12,48] |

| | | | | | | |
|---------|----------------------------|-------------------|---|-------------------------|--------|----------------------|
| 111 | IVS I-6 T>C | HBB:c.92+6T>C | Activation of cSD; partial SD LoF | SD-proximal | 6 nt | [49] |
| 112 | IVS I-7 A>T | HBB:c.92+7A>T | Unknown | SD-proximal | 7 nt | ITHANET ⁷ |
| 3276 | IVS I-7 A>G | HBB:c.92+7A>G | Unknown | SD-proximal | 7 nt | ITHANET ⁷ |
| 3445 | IVS I-13G | HBB:c.92+13 | Potential target | cSD activated by IthaID | 13 nt | [12] |
| 113 | IVS I-110 G>A | HBB:c.93-21G>A | Confirmed target; GG>GA (aSA) ¹¹ | aSA | 21 nt | [1,50] |
| 3008 | IVS I-115 A>T | HBB:c.93-16A>T | AT>TT (effect unclear) | Intronic | 16 nt | [51] |
| 114 | IVS I-116 T>G | HBB:c.93-15T>G | TT>GT (potential aSD) ¹² | Intronic | 15 nt | [52] |
| 115 | IVS I-128 T>G | HBB:c.93-3T>G | SS LoF | 3' pyrimidine run | 3 nt | [53] |
| 116 | IVS I-129 A>C | HBB:c.93-2A>C | SS LoF | SA ¹³ | 2 nt | [54] |
| 117 | IVS I-129 A>G | HBB:c.93-2A>G | SS LoF | SA | 2 nt | [55] |
| 118 | IVS I-130 G>C | HBB:c.93-1G>C | SS LoF | SA | 1 nt | [56] |
| 119/120 | IVS I-130 G>A | HBB:c.93-1G>A | SS LoF | SA | 1 nt | [7,57–59] |
| 200 | IVS II-1 G>A | HBB:c.315+1G>A | SS LoF | SD | 1 nt | [60,61] |
| 201 | IVS II-1 G>C | HBB:c.315+1G>C | SS LoF | SD | 1 nt | [62] |
| 202 | IVS II-1 G>T | HBB:c.315+1G>T | SS LoF | SD | 1 nt | ITHANET ⁷ |
| 203 | IVS II-2 T>C | HBB:c.315+2T>C | SS LoF | SD | 2 nt | [63] |
| 204 | IVS II-2 T>A | HBB:c.315+2T>A | SS LoF | SD | 2 nt | ITHANET ⁷ |
| 3226 | IVS II-2 T>G | HBB:c.315+2T>G | SS LoF | SD | 2 nt | [9] |
| 208 | IVS II-5 G>C | HBB:c.315+5G>C | Activation of cSD; partial LoF | Intronic | 5 nt | [64,65] |
| 3446 | IVS II-579G | HBB:c.316-272 | cSA ¹⁴ activated by IthaID 214 | Intron | 270 nt | [12] |
| 210 | IVS II-613 C>T | HBB:c.316-238C>T | Activation of cryptic splice site | Intron | 238 nt | [66] |
| 211 | IVS II-654 C>T | HBB:c.316-197C>T | Confirmed target; GC>GT (aSD) | Intron | 197 nt | [50,67] |
| 212 | IVS II-705 T>G | HBB:c.316-146T>G | Activation of cryptic splice site | Intron | 146 nt | [68,69] |
| 213 | IVS II-726 A>G | HBB:c.316-125A>G | Likely block of RNA processing | Intron | 125 nt | [70] |
| 214 | IVS II-745 C>G | HBB:c.316-106C>G | aSD, activating cSA IthaID3446 | Intron | 106 nt | [12] |
| 215 | IVS II-761 A>G | HBB:c.316-90A>G | AT>GT (potential aSD) | Intron | 90 nt | ITHANET ⁷ |
| 2183 | IVS II-781 C>G | HBB:c.316-70C>G | CT>GT (potential aSD) | Intron | 70 nt | [11] |
| 216 | IVS II-815 C>T | HBB:c.316-36C>T | CT>GT (potential aSD) | Intron | 36 nt | [71] |
| 217 | IVS II-837 T>G | HBB:c.316-14T>G | AT>AG (potential aSA) | Intron | 14 nt | [72] |
| 218 | IVS II-843 T>G | HBB:c.316-8T>G | LoF | 3' pyrimidine run | 8 nt | [73] |
| 219 | IVS II-844 C>A | HBB:c.316-7C>A | Presumed LoF, very mild | 3' pyrimidine run | 7 nt | [74] |
| 220 | IVS II-844 C>G | HBB:c.316-7C>G | Presumed LoF, very mild | 3' pyrimidine run | 7 nt | [75,76] |
| 221 | IVS II-848 C>A | HBB:c.316-3C>A | LoF | 3' pyrimidine run | 3 nt | [53,77] |
| 222 | IVS II-848 C>G | HBB:c.316-3C>G | LoF | 3' pyrimidine run | 3 nt | [78] |
| 3045 | IVS II-848 C>T | HBB:c.316-3C>T | Presumed LoF | 3' pyrimidine run | 3 nt | [11] |
| 267 | Terminal CD +6 | HBB:c.*6C>G | Mild LoF | 3' UTR | 6 nt | [79] |
| | C>G [CAP +1480] | | | | | |
| 2177 | Terminal CD +32 | HBB:c.*32A>C | Presumed LoF | 3' UTR | 32 nt | [45] |
| 268 | Terminal CD +47 | HBB:c.*47C>G | Presumed LoF | 3' UTR | 47 nt | ITHANET ⁷ |
| 3443 | Cap +1570 (T>C) | HBB:c.*96T>C | Presumed LoF, very mild | 3' UTR | 96 nt | [80] |
| 278 | Poly A (- AATAAA) | HBB:c.*108_*112de | LoF | poly(A) signal | 108 nt | [81] |
| | AATAAA>----- | 1AATAAA | | | | |
| 270 | Poly A (A>C) AATAAA>CAT | HBB:c.*108A>C | Mild LoF | poly(A) signal | 108 nt | [82] |
| | AAA | | | | | |
| 271 | Poly A (A>G) AATAAA>GAT | HBB:c.*108A>G | LoF | poly(A) signal | 108 nt | [83] |
| 277 | Poly A -AT | HBB:c.*109_*110de | LoF | poly(A) signal | 109 nt | [84] |
| | IAT | | | | | |
| | HBB:c.*110_*111de | | | | | |
| | ITA | | | | | |
| 272 | Poly A (T>C) AATAAA>AAC | HBB:c.*110T>C | Mild LoF | poly(A) signal | 110 nt | [85] |
| | AAA | | | | | |
| 273 | Poly A (T>A) AATAAA>AAA | HBB:c.*110A>C | Mild LoF | poly(A) signal | 110 nt | [86] |
| | AAA | | | | | |
| 3046 | Poly(A) | HBB:c.*111_*112de | Mild LoF | poly(A) signal | 111 nt | [87] |
| | AATAAA>AAT-IAA | | | | | |
| | -A | | | | | |
| 274 | Poly A (A>G) AATAAA>AAT | HBB:c.*111A>G | Mild LoF | poly(A) signal | 111 nt | [88] |
| | GAA | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|------|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------------|--------------------------|---------|------|
| 2198 | Poly A (A>T) AATAAA>AAT ATA | HBB:c.*112A>T | Mild LoF | poly(A) signal | 112 nt | [89] |
| 275 | Poly A (A>G) AATAAA>AAT AGA | HBB:c.*112A>G | Mild LoF | poly(A) signal | 112 nt | [88] |
| 276 | Poly A (A>G) AATAAA>AAT AAG | HBB:c.*113A>G | Mild LoF | poly(A) signal | 113 nt | [90] |
| 2564 | 3'UTR +1592 | HBB:c.*118A>G | Very mild or benign | Conserved +1592 nt in 3' | 1592 nt | [91] |
| 2463 | 3'UTR +101 G>C | HBB:c.*233G>C | Very mild or benign | 3' UTR-adjacent | 101 nt | [92] |

Fill color for “Type of mutation” indicates likely suitability for DARE, based on *Region*, severity and level of characterization. Absence of fill color — unsuitable for DARE; orange fill color — likely unsuitable for DARE; yellow fill color — possibly suitable for DARE; green fill color — likely or proven suitable for DARE and included in Table 1 of the manuscript.

¹Nucleotide-specific target ID from ITHANET (www.ithanet.eu); ² Distance of the target from the nearest exon;

³IthaID3083 was the only *HBB* mutation detected in heterozygosity in a β-thalassemic patient. The second mutation is presumed to have escaped detection. IthaID3083 would be a potential target if it turned out to be dominant after all; ⁴RE—response element; ⁵LoF—loss of function; ⁶nt—nucleotide; ⁷Unpublished data retrieved from the ITHANET Portal [93]; ⁸DRE—direct repeat element; ⁹cSD—cryptic splice donor; ¹⁰SD—splice donor; ¹¹aSA—aberrant splice acceptor; ¹²aSD—aberrant splice donor; ¹³SA—splice acceptor; ¹⁴cSA—cryptic splice acceptor

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