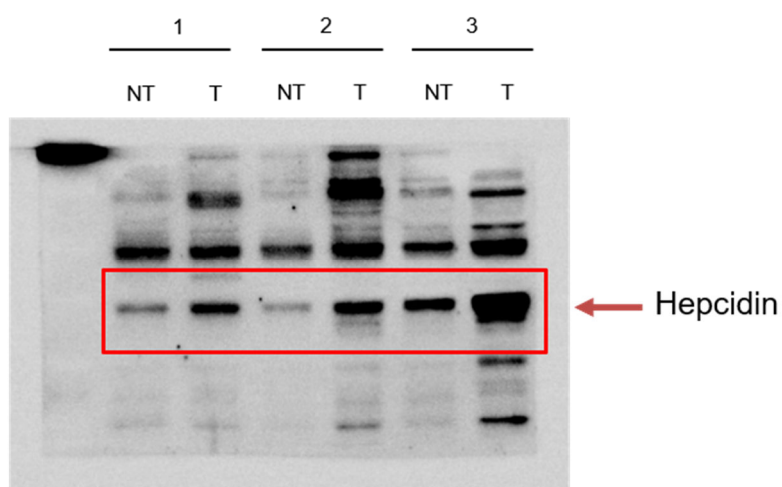
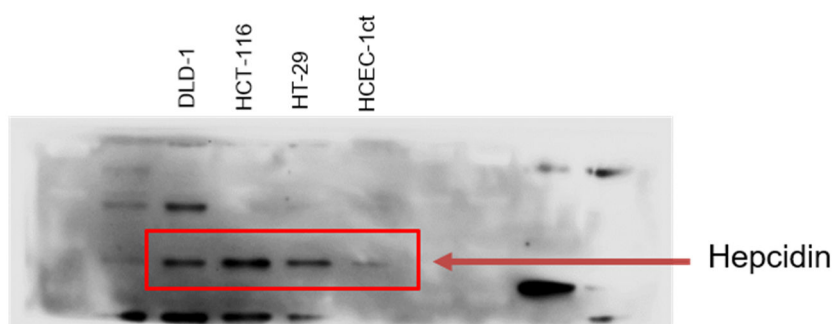


# Supplementary Figure S1

**a**



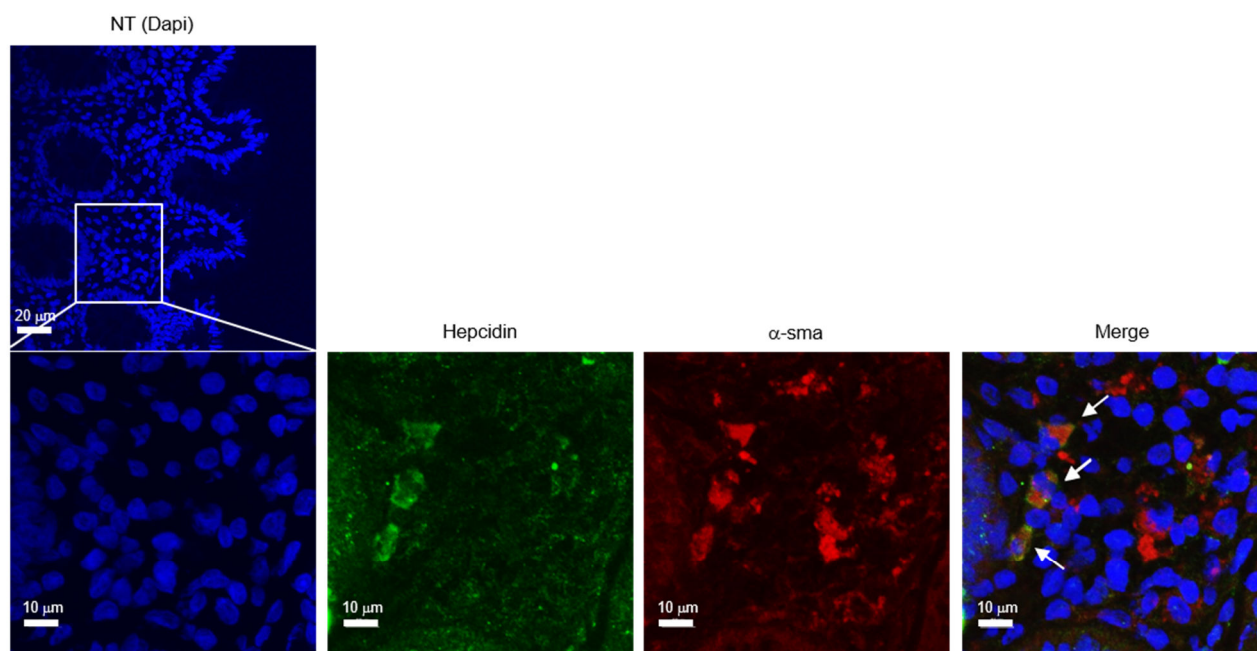
**b**



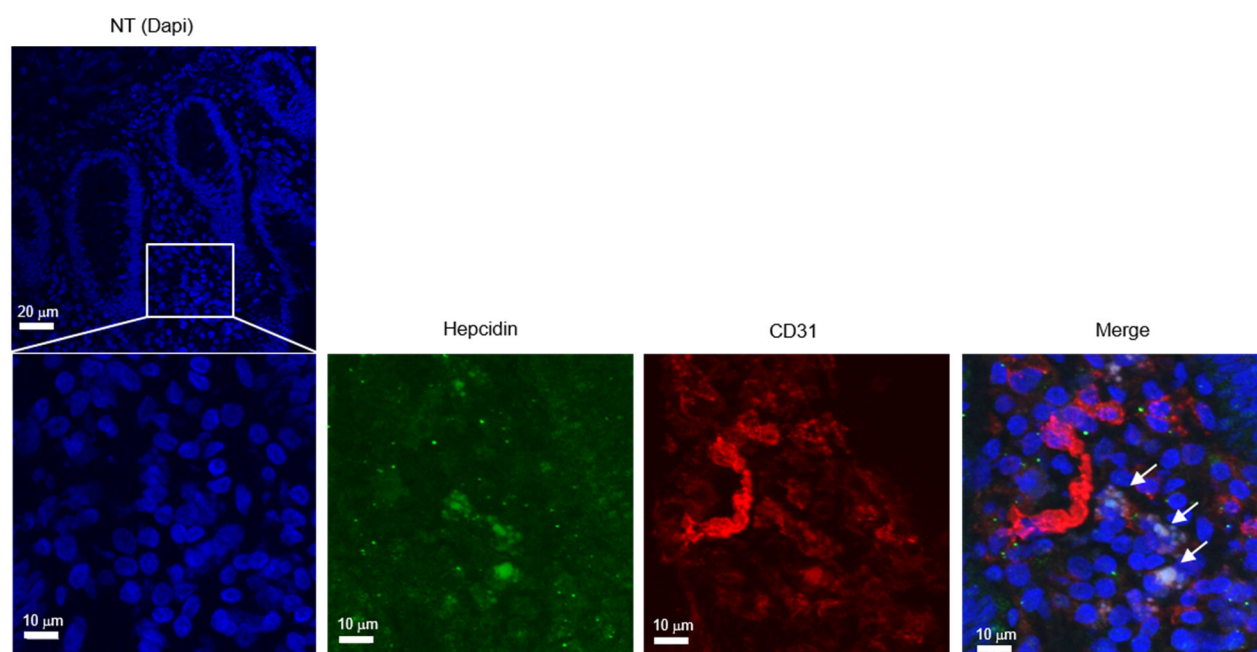
**Figure S1.** Uncropped western blots to hepcidin expression. a. Figure 1a. b. Figure 1d.

## Supplementary Figure S2

a



b

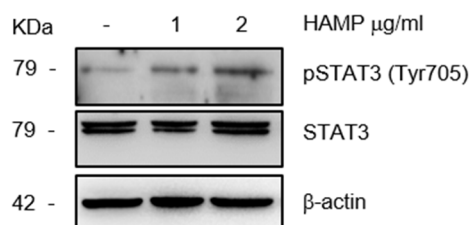


**Figure S2.** Representative confocal laser scanning microscopy images. a.  $\alpha$ -SMA (red) and hepcidin (green) in uninvolvement, non-tumoral mucosa (NT) of a CRC patient; nuclei are stained with 4',6-diamidino-2-phenylindole (DAPI) (blue). White arrows indicate cells co-expressing  $\alpha$ -SMA and hepcidin. b. CD31 (red) and hepcidin (green) in uninvolvement non-tumoral mucosa (NT) of a CRC patient; nuclei are stained with 4',6-diamidino-2-phenylindole (DAPI) (blue). White arrows indicate cells co-expressing CD31 and hepcidin.

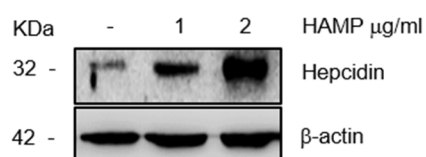


## Supplementary Figure S3

a

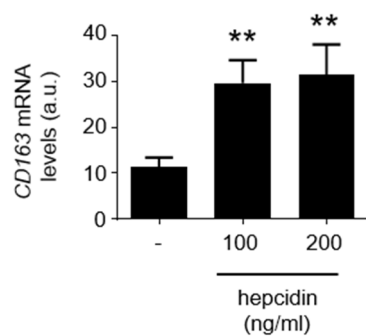


b



**Figure S3.** a. Representative Western blots showing p-Stat3, Stat3 and β-actin in HCT-116 cells stimulated with recombinant hepcidin for 30' minutes. b. Representative Western blots showing hepcidin and β-actin in HCT-116 cells stimulated with recombinant hepcidin for 24 hours.

## Figure supplementary S4



**Figure S4.** Stimulation of blood mononuclear cells with hepcidin increases CD163, a marker of regulatory macrophages. Blood mononuclear cells were either left unstimulated (Unst) or stimulated with exogenous hepcidin as indicated in materials. CD163 RNA expression was analyzed by Real-Time PCR and values were normalized to β-actin RNA. Values are expressed in arbitrary units (a.u.) and indicate mean ± SD of 3 experiments. \*\*p<0.01.