Figure S1: Splice variants of the NANOG1 and NANOG2 gene

1. NANOG1 variants

NANOG1A (E3-E4-E5-E6):

NANOG1Ba (E1-E2-E3(+3)-E4-E5-E6):

GACACAATGGGACAGGGAGCGGGGGGATGGGGGGAATTCAGCTCAGGCTTTTATGCAAAGACCCCCTTCT GCAAAGAACAAAGCTTCTGGTACCTGCCCTTTGGAGAGCTGCGGGCAAGCTCAGCCTCGAAACACACA CACCCACACGAGATGGGCACGGAGTAGTCTTGAAAGACATGACAAATCACCAGACCTGGGAAGAAGCT AAAGAGCCAGAGGGAAAAAGCCAGAAGTCGACTACCTGGGAGGAGGGATAGACAAGAAACCAAACTAA AGAATCTTCACCT**ATG**CCTGTGATTTGTGGGCCTGAAGAAAACTATCCATCCTTGCAAATGTCTTCTG CCTGATTCTTCCACCAGTCCCAAAGGCAAACAACCACTTCTGCAGAGAAGAGTGTCGCAAAAAAGGA AGACAAGGTCCCGGTCAAGAACAGAAGACCAGAACTGTGTTCTCTTCCACCCAGCTGTGTGTACTCA ATGATAGATTTCAGAGACAGAAATACCTCAGCCTCCAGCAGATGCAAGAACTCTCCAACATCCTGAAC **CTCAGCTACAAACAG**GTGAAGACCTGGTTCCAGAACCAGAGAATGAAATCTAAGAGGTGGCAGAAAAA CAACTGGCCGAAGAATAGCAATGGTGTGACGCAGAAGGCCTCAGCACCTACCCCAGCCTTTACT CTTCCTACCACCAGGGATGCCTGGTGAACCCGACTGGGAACCTTCCAATGTGGAGCAACCAGACCTGG AACAATTCAACCTGGAGCAACCAGACCCAGAACATCCAGTCCTGGAGCAACCACTCCTGGAACACTCA GACCTGGTGCACCCAATCCTGGAACAATCAGGCCTGGAACAGTCCCTTCTATAACTGTGGAGAGGAAT CTCTGCAGTCCTGCATGCAGTTCCAGCCAAATTCTCCTGCCAGTGACTTGGAGGCTGCCTTGGAAGCT GCTGGGGAAGGCCTTAATGTAATACAGCAGACCACTAGGTATTTTAGTACTCCACAAACCATGGATTT ATTCCTAAACTACTCCATGAACATGCAACCTGAAGACGTGTGA

NANOG1Bb (E1-E2-E3(+6)-E4-E5-E6):

GACACAATGGGACAGGGAGCGGGGGGATGGGGGGAATTCAGCTCAGGCTTTTATGCAAAGACCCCCTTCT GCAAAGAACAAAGCTTCTGGTACCTGCCCTTTGGAGAGCTGCGGGCAAGCTCAGCCTCGAAACACACA CACCCACACGAGATGGGCACGGAGTAGTCTTGAAAGACATGACAAATCACCAGACCTGGGAAGAAGCT AAAGAGCCAGAGGGAAAAAAGCCAGAAGTCGACTACCTGGGAGGAGGGATAGACAAGAAACCAAACTAA **AGGAAACTAAG**TGTGGATCCAGCTTGTCCCCCAAAGCTTGCCTTTGAAGCATCCGACTGTAAAGA GATTCTTCCACCAGTCCCAAAGGCAAACAACCCACTTCTGCAGAGAAGAGTGTCGCAAAAAAGGAAGA CAAGGTCCCGGTCAAGAAACAGAAGACCAGAACTGTGTTCTCTTCCACCCAGCTGTGTGTACTCAATG ATAGATTTCAGAGACAGAAATACCTCAGCCTCCAGCAGATGCAAGAACTCTCCAACATCCTGAACCTA **GCTACAAACAG**GTGAAGACCTGGTTCCAGAACCAGAGAATGAAATCTAAGAGGTGGCAGAAAAACACT **GGCCGAAGAATAGCAATGGTGTGACGCAGAAGGCCTCAGCACCTACCCCAGCCTTTACTCTTCC** TACCACCAGGGATGCCTGGTGAACCCGACTGGGAACCTTCCAATGTGGAGCAACCAGACCTGGAACAA TTCAACCTGGAGCAACCAGAACCAGCACCAGTCCTGGAGCAACCACTCCTGGAACACTCAGACCT GGTGCACCCAATCCTGGAACAATCAGGCCTGGAACAGTCCCTTCTATAACTGTGGAGAGGAATCTCTG CAGTCCTGCATGCAGTTCCAGCCAAATTCTCCTGCCAGTGACTTGGAGGCTGCCTTGGAAGCTGCTGG GGAAGGCCTTAATGTAATACAGCAGACCACTAGGTATTTTAGTACTCCACAAACCATGGATTTATTCC TAAACTACTCCATGAACATGCAACCTGAAGACGTG**TGA**

NANOG1Bc (E1-E2-E3(+17)-E4-E5-E6):

GACACAATGGGACAGGGAGCGGGGGGATGGGGGGAATTCAGCTCAGGCTTTTATGCAAAGACCCCCTTCT GCAAAGAACAAAGCTTCTGGTACCTGCCCTTTGGAGAGCTGCGGGCAAGCTCAGCCTCGAAACACACA CACCCACACGAGATGGGCACGGAGTAGTCTTGAAAGACATGACAAATCACCAGACCTGGGAAGAAGCT AAAGAGCCAGAGGGAAAAAAGCCAGAAGTCGACTACCTGGGAGGAGGGATAGACAAGAAACCAAACTAA **AGGAAACTAAG**CTTGTCCCCAAAGCTTGCCTTGCCTTTGAAGCATCCGACTGTAAAGAATCTTCACCTA **TG**CCTGTGATTTGTGGGCCTGAAGAAAACTATCCATCCTTGCAAATGTCTTCTGCTGAGATGCCTCAC **ACGGAGACTGTCTCCTCCTTCCTTCCTTCCTCCATGGATCTGCTTATTCAGGACAGCCCTGATTCTTCCAC** CAGTCCCAAAGGCAAACAACCCACTTCTGCAGAGAAGAGTGTCGCAAAAAAGGAAGACAAGGTCCCGG **TCAAGAAACAGAAGACCAGAACTGTGTTCTCTTCCACCCAGCTGTGTGTACTCAATGATAGATTTCAG** AGACAGAAATACCTCAGCCTCCAGCAGATGCAAGAACTCTCCAACATCCTGAACCTCAGCTACAAACA **G**GTGAAGACCTGGTTCCAGAACCAGAGAATGAAATCTAAGAGGTGGCAGAAAAACAACTGGCCGAAGA GGATGCCTGGTGAACCCGACTGGGAACCTTCCAATGTGGAGCAACCAGACCTGGAACAATTCAACCTG GAGCAACCAGACCCAGAACATCCAGTCCTGGAGCAACCACTCCTGGAACACTCAGACCTGGTGCACCC AATCCTGGAACAATCAGGCCTGGAACAGTCCCTTCTATAACTGTGGAGAGGAATCTCTGCAGTCCTGC ATGCAGTTCCAGCCAAATTCTCCTGCCAGTGACTTGGAGGCTGCCTTGGAAGCTGCTGGGGGAAGGCCT TAATGTAATACAGCAGACCACTAGGTATTTTAGTACTCCACAAACCATGGATTTATTCCTAAACTACT CCATGAACATGCAACCTGAAGACGTGTGA

2. NANOG2 variants

NANOG2D1: (E3-E4-E5-E6)

NANOG2D2a (E1-E3(+3)-E4-E5-E6(+48))

NANOG2D2b (E1-E3(+6)-E4-E5-E6(+48))

GACGCAATGGGACAGGGAGCGGGGGATGGGGGAATTCAGCTCAGGCTTTTATGCAAAGTCCCCCTTCA GCAAAGAACAAAGCTTCTGGTACCTGCCCTTTGGACAGCTGCGGGGCAAGCTCAGCCTCGTGTGGATCC AGCTTGTCCATAAAGCCTGCCTTGCTCCAAAGCATCTGACTGTAAAGACTGGTCACCTATACCTGTGA TTTGTGGGCCTGAAGAAAACCATCCATCCTTGCAAAGCTGTCTTCTGGCTGAGATGCCTCACACAGAGACT GTCTCTCCTCTTCCTTCCTCCATGGATCTGCCTATTCAGGACAGCCATGATTCTTCCACCAGTCCCAA AGGCAAACAACCCACTACTGCAGAGAAGAGTGCCACAAAAAAGGAAGACAAGGTCCCGGTCAAGAAAC AGAAGACCAGAACTGTGTTCTCTTCCACCCAGCTGTGTGTACTCAATGATAGATTTCAGAGACAGAAA TACCTCAGCCTCCAGCAGATGCAAGAACTTTCCAACATCCTGAACCTCAGCTACAAACAGGTGAAGAC CTGGTTCCAGAACCAGAGAATGAAATCTAAGAGGTGGCAGAAAAACAACTGGCTGAAGAATAGCAATG GTGTGACGCAGGGATGCCTGGTGAACCCGACTGGGAACCATCCTGGAGCAACCAGGACCAGGAACAACCAGACCTGGAACACCAGAACCAGACCTGGAACACCAGACCTGGAACACCAGACCTGGAACACCAGCCTGGAACACCAGACCTCAGACCTCAGACCTCAGACCACTCCAGACCAGACCACCAGACCAGACCACTCAGAC CTGGTGCACCCAATCCTGGAACAATCCAGGCCTGGAACAACCACTCCTGGAACAACCAGCCTGGAACACCAGACCTCAGAC CTGGTGCACCCAATCCTGGAACAATCAGGCCTGGAACAACCACTCCTGGAACAACCAGGCAGAACACCACTCAGAC CTGGTGCACCCAATCCTGGAACAATCAGGCCTGGAACAACCACTCCTGGAAGAACCACTCCAGACCCCAGACCACCAGACCACCAGACCTCCTGGAACAACCACTCCTGGAAGAATCCAGGCCTGGAACAATCCAGGCCTGGAACCACTCCTGGAAGAGCCCTTGGAAGAGCACCCCTTCTAAAACTGTGGAAGAGCACTCC TGCAGTCCTGCATGCAGTTCCAGCCAAATCCAGGCCTGGCAACCACTCGGAGGCTGCCTTGGAAGAGCTGCT GGGGAAGGCCTTAATGTAATACAGCAGACCACTAGGTATTTTAATACTCCCACAAACCATGGATTTATT CCTAAACTACTCCATGAACATGCAACCTGAAGACGTG**TG**

NANOG2D2c (E1-E3(+17)-E4-E5-E6(+48))

GACGCAATGGGACAGGGAGCGGGGGGATGGGGGAATTCAGCTCAGGCTTTTATGCAAAGTCCCCCTTCA GCAAAGAACAAAGCTTCTGGTACCTGCCCTTTGGACAGCTGCGGGGCAAGCTCAGCCTCGCTTGTCCAT AAAGCCTGCCTTGCTCCAAAGCATCTGACTGTAAAGACTGGTCACCTATACCTGTGATTTGTGGGCCT GAAGAAAACCATCCATCCTTGCAAATG TCTTCCTCCATGGATCTGCCTATTCAGGACAGCCATGATTCTTCCACCAGAGACTGTCTCTCCTCT TCCTTCCTCCATGGATCTGCCTATTCAGGACAGCCATGATTCTTCCACCAGTCCAAAGGCAAACAAC CCACTACTGCAGAGAAGAGTGCCACAAAAAAGGAAGACAAGGTCCCGGTCAAGAAACAGAAGACCAGA ACTGTGTTCTCTTCCACCCAGCTGTGTGTGTACTCAATGATAGATTTCAGAGACAGAAACAGAAGACCAGA ACTGTGTGTCAAGAACTTTCCAACATCCTGAACCTCAGCTACAAACAGGTGAAGAACCTGGTTCCAGA ACCAGAGAATGAAATCTAAGAGGTGGCAGAAAAACAACTGGCTGAAGAATAGCAATGGTGTGACGCAG GGATGCCTGGTGAACCCGACTGGGAACCTTCCAATGTGGAGCAACCAGACCTGGAACAATTCAACCTG GAGCAACCAGACCCAGAACATCCAGTCCTGGAGCAACCACTCCTGGAACAATTCAACCTG GAGCAACCAGACCCGACTGGGAACAGTCCCTTCTATAACTGTGGAGGAGGAATCTCTGCAGTCCTGC ATCCTGGAACAATCAGGCCTGGAACAGTCCCTTCTATAACTGTGGAGGAGGAATCTCTGCAGTCCTGC ATGCAGTTCCAGCCAAATTCTCCTGCCAGTGACTTGGAGGCTGCCTTGGAAGCAGCTGCTGGGGAAGGCCT TAATGTAATACAGCAGACCACTAGGTATTTTAATACTCCCACAAACCATGGATTTATTCCTAAACTACT CCATGAACAATGCAACCTGAAGACGTG<u>TGA</u>

NANOG2D2* (E1*-E3(+77)-E4-E5-E6(+48))

GACGCAATGGGACAGGGAGCGGGGGGATGGGGGGAATTCAGCTCAGGCTTTTATGCAAAGTCCCCCTTCA **GCAAAGAACAAAGCTTCTGGTACCTGCCCTTTGGACAGCTGCGGGCAAGCTCAGCCTCGGTGAGTCTT** GGTGGCCTTGACAGCCCCCACTTAACACACTGTGCTGATTAAGAGAGACAGGAGGGCAAGTTTTTCCC CTCCTCCCCGACGCCCCCATTCTGACTCTTCTCCAGAGTGGAGGTCTGTGATTTGTGGGCCTGAAGAA CTCCATGGATCTGCCTATTCAGGACAGCCATGATTCTTCCACCAGTCCCAAAGGCAAACAACCCACTA CTGCAGAGAAGAGTGCCACAAAAAAGGAAGACAAGGTCCCGGTCAAGAAACAGAAGACCAGAACTGTG TTCTCTTCCACCCAGCTGTGTGTACTCAATGATAGATTTCAGAGACAGAAATACCTCAGCCTCCAGCA GATGCAAGAACTTTCCAACATCCTGAACCTCAGCTACAAACAGGTGAAGACCTGGTTCCAGAACCAGA GAATGAAATCTAAGAGGTGGCAGAAAAACAACTGGCTGAAGAATAGCAATGGTGTGACGCAG<mark>GGATGC</mark> CTGGTGAACCCGACTGGGAACCTTCCAATGTGGAGCAACCAGACCTGGAACAATTCAACCTGGAGCAA CCAGACCCAGAACATCCAGTCCTGGAGCAACCACTCCTGGAACACTCAGACCTGGTGCACCCAATCCT TTCCAGCCAAATTCTCCTGCCAGTGACTTGGAGGCTGCCTTGGAAGCTGCTGGGGAAGGCCTTAATGT AATACAGCAGACCACTAGGTATTTTAATACTCCACAAACCATGGATTTATTCCTAAACTACTCCATGA ACATGCAACCTGAAGACGTGTGA

NANOG2E (E1-E4-E5-E6(+48))

GACGCAATGGGACAGGGAGCGGGGGGATGGGGGGAATTCAGCTCAGGCTTTTATGCAAAGTCCCCCTTCA GCAAAGAACAAAGCTTCTGGTACCTGCCCTTTGGACAGCTGCGGGCAAGCTCAGCCTCGTCTCCTCC TTCCTTCCTCCATGGATCTGCCTATTCAGGACAGCCATGATTCTTCCACCAGTCCCCAAAGGCAAACAA

NANOG2 F (E1-E3-E4(+39)-E5-E6(+48))

All cloned and sequenced NANOG1 and NANOG2 transcript variants are summarized above. Exons are alternatively marked in red and in blue. Translation start and stop codons are indicated (underlined).

Figure S2: Identified splice sites in human NANOG1 and NANOG2

1. NANOG1

Exon 1a intron Exon 2 GCGAAGAATGTA · gtaagtcggcct - cccttcccccag · AAACACACACAC Exon 1b intron Exon 2 AGCTCAGCCTCG · gtgagtcttgtt - cccttcccccag · AAACACACACAC Exon 1b* intron Exon 2 GTTTACTTTTCG·qtatqqaaqact - cccttcccccaq·AAACACACACAC Exon 2 intron Exon 3 AAGGAAACTAAG.gtaggtgctgaa - ctatactaacAT.GAGTGTGGATCC (+3) - tactaacATGAG·TGTGGATCCAGC (+6) - GTGTGGATCCAG·CTTGTCCCCAAA (+17) Exon 3 intron Exon 4 ACACGGAGACTG · gtaagaaagaaa - tgttcccaacag · TCTCTCCTCTTC Exon 4 intron Exon 5 **AGCTACAAACAG** · gtaggcttgttt - tttttcctgcag · **GTGAAGACCTGG** Exon 5 intron Exon 6 GGTGTGACGCAG·gtaacaggaaac - cttctctttcag·AAGGCCTCAGCA - TCCTACCACCAG·GGATGCCTGGTG (+48) 2. NANOG2 Exon 1b Exon 3 intron AGCTCAGCCTCG·gtgagtcttggt - taatgacATGAG·TGTGGATCCAGC (+6) - $GTGTGGATCCAG \cdot CTTGTCCATAAA (+17)$ Exon 1b* CAGAGTGGAGGT·ctgagaagaaaa - GGTCACCTATAC·CTGTGATTTGTG (+77) Exon 3 intron Exon 4 ACACAGAGACTG · gtaagaaagaaa - tgtttccaacag · TCTCTCCTCTTC - CTGCCTATTCAG·GACAGCCATGAT (+39) Exon 4 intron Exon 5 AGCTACAAACAG · gtaggcttattt - tttttcctgcag · GTGAAGACCTGG Exon 5 intron Exon 6 **GGTGTGACGCAG** · gtaacaggaaac - cttctctttgag · **AAGGCCTCAGCA** - TCCTACCACCAG·GGATGCCTGGTG (+48)

Exon sequences are marked in bold letters and are shown for both the *NANOG1* and *NANOG2* gene. Intronic sequences are in lower case letters. Exonic and intronic sequences were separated by a dot. All splice sites of all identified splice varinats were indicated.

Figure S3: Mass spectrometry data from NANOG1A protein



Figure S4: Immunohistology



Cytospinned SEM and RS4;11 cells were treated with HRP-conjugated antisera raised against NANOG, OCT4 and SOX2. Counterstainings were performed with a DAPI solution. Controls were treated with all solutions except the antisera. A few SEM cells seem to express NANOG, while OCT4 and SOX2 seem to be expressed in nearly all cells. RS4;11 cells seems to express NANOG and SOX2, while only few cells express OCT4.



Figure S5: QPCR-experiments to estimate the amount of *NANOG1* variants

Top: partial gene structure of NANOG1 and NANOG2 (exons 1-4). Nomenclature as in Figure 2 of the manuscript. QPCR-primer design: primer A binds to NANOG1/2 exon 1b, primer B to NANOG1 exon 2, primer C to NANOG1/2 exon 3 and primer D to NANOG1/2 exon 4. Lower left panel: Results of independent QPCR experiments made with reverse transcribed total RNA isolated from NTERA2 cells. The experiments were carried out as described in Material and methods. All experiments were carried out in parallel with log-diluted plasmid copies (1 – 10^6 copies) that encode the NANOG1Bb splice variant. Lower right panel: Primers AB create an amplimer specific for the NANOG1 gene, while primers CD are able to identify transcripts starting from both NANOG genes (4 different transcripts), we estimated roughly the relative amount of transcripts starting from NANOG1 ex1b in relation to NANOG1 ex3 about 1/50.

Figure S6: RNase protection experiments to validate the existence of novel NANOG1/2 transcripts



A. Outline of the performed RNase protection experiments. Radiolabeled antisense RNA probes were generated with the MAXIscript Kit (AMBION). For NANOG1 we used a cloned exon 2-3 fragment (Δ 5 splice variant); for NANOG2 we used a cloned exon 1-3-4 fragment (Δ 5 splice variant). Both fragments were cloned in pGEM-T plasmid (Promega); plasmid were digest and subjected to SP6 polymerase transcription in the presence of ³²P-UTP nucleotides. Radioactive labeled probes were separated on a 5% denaturating PAA gel. Gel slices were cut out and eluated over night at 37°C. Eluated RNA probes were then precipitated and dissolved into 40.000 cpm/µl.

B. RNase protection experimente were carried out as recommendend by the manufacturer (AMBION). Briefly, we used 10 and 30 µg total RNA from NTERA2 cells. About 80.000 cpm were co-precipitated with these RNAs. Appropriate controls were performed by suing yeast RNA.

B. NTERA cells express both the NANOG1 and NANOG2 gene. Due to our NANOG1-probe, 3 different protected species were expected. A 277 nucleotide-long species proves that transcripts spanned exons 2 and 3, while the shorter 130 nucleotide-long species represents transcripts starting upstream of NANOG exon 3. The shortest 119 nucleotide-long species is indicative for a splice product from exon 2 to nucleotide +17 of exon 3. Thus, NANOG1 transcripts in NTERA2 cells are starting upstream of the 5' terminal nucleotide of the 277 protected fragment in exon 2 and predominantly splice to nucleotide +17 of exon 3.

Due to our NANOG2-probe, 5 different protected species were expected. The longest protected fragment is indicative for the presence of NANOG2 transcripts coding for exons 1b, 3 and 4. The 223 nucleotide-long fragment represents NANOG2 transcripts starting upstream of NANOG exon 3 and containing exon 4 sequences. The 212 nucleotide-long species represents again a splice variant from NANOG2 exon 1b to nucleotide +17 of exon 3. The 146 nucleotide-long species are again transcripts starting upstream of exon 3, but are alternatively splice to nucleotide +39 of exon 4. The shortest protected fragment with 135 nucleotides represents transcripts starting from exon 1b that alternative splice to nucleotide +17 of exon 3 and alternatively to nucleotide +39 of exon 4. Thus, transcripts starting upstream of NANOG exon 3 are predominantly used in NTERA2 cells.

In summary, this experiment validated independently the existence of NANOG1 exon 1b and 2 and NANOG2 exon 1b in transcripts deriving from both genes.





A. Tested fragments I-III for NANOG1 and NANOG2 in ChIP experiments.

B. ChIP experiments. Chromatin was cross-linked with 1% formaldehyde at room temperature for 10 min in PBS. Cells were then washed twice with PBS, collected in SDS Buffer (100 mM NACI, 50 mM Tris pH 8.1, 5 mM EDTA pH 8.0, 0,5% SDS) and centrifuged for 6 min at 1.200 rpm. For sonication, cells were collected in IP Buffer (100 mM NaCI, 67 mM Tris pH 8.3, 5 mM EDTA pH 8.0, 1,7% Triton X-100, 0,3% SDS) and sonicated 4 x 20

sec with an amplitude of 30% (Branson Digital Sonifier W-250 D, Danbury, CT) followed by centrifugation for 50 min at 20.000 x g at 4°C. The chromatin was then pre-cleared with protein A/G-sepharose (25 µl of 50% slurry in TE buffer (Santa Cruz, CA), containing 2 µg of salmon sperm DNA (Trevigen USA), and 50 µg BSA) for 2-4 h at 4°C. Immunoprecipitations were performed overnight at 4°C with specific antibodies (Abcam, UK: a RNA polymerase II, α Histone H3-trimethyl K4, α Histone H3-trimethyl K9, α Sox2; Santa Cruz, USA: α Oct-3/4 C-20, α lgG). After immunoprecipitation, 20 µl protein A-Sepharose with 1.6 µg of salmon sperm DNA and 40 µg BSA were added and the incubation was continued for another 2-3 h. Precipitates were washed sequentially three times with wash buffer (WB) 1 (150 mM NaCl, 200 mM Tris pH 8.1, 50 mM EDTA pH 8.0, 5,2% sucrose, 1% Triton X-100, 0,2% SDS), two times with WB 2 (0,1% deoxycholic acid, 1 mM EDTA, 50 mM HEPES pH7,5, 500 mM NaCl, 1% Triton X-100), two times with WB 3 (0,5% deoxycholic acid, 1 mM EDTA, 250 mM LiCl, 0.5% NP-40. 10 mM Tris pH 8.0) and one time with TE Buffer. DNA was eluted by incubating the protein A-sepharose in 300 µl of 1% SDS, 0,1 M NaHCO₃ overnight at 65°C, shaking. Proteins were removed by incubation with 60 µg of Proteinase K for 60 min. DNA fragments were purified with a QIAquick Spin Kit (Qiagen, Germany). The recovered DNA was then analyzed by PCR. All PCR experiments were performed in 50 µl reactions with the following setting: initial denaturation with 2 min at 94°C, followed by 35 cycles with 30 sec at 94°C, 30 sec at 60°C and 30 sec at 72°C. A final elongation step (3 min at 72°C) was used for all reactions. The following oligonucleotides were used: NANOG1 fragment I (5'cagggtaccatctgctcactaagtgttag-3'; 5'-cagaagcttgttaaaatgagctaacggct-3'); NANOG1 fragment II (5'-cagggtacccgtgcccagccgttag-3'; 5'-cagaagcttctttgcataaaagcctgag-3'); NANOG1 fragment III (5'-cagggtaccatcccattcctgttga-3'; 5'-cagaagcttctggatccacactcatgt-3'); NANOG2 fragment I (5'-cagggtaccatctgctcactaagtgttag-3'; 5'-cagaagcttgttaaaatgagctaacaatttag-3'); NANOG2 fragment II (5'-cagggtacctcaactctactaaattgttag-3'; 5'-cagaagcttctttgcataaaagcctgag-3'); NANOG2 fragment III (5'-cagggtaccgtgctggaacccaactct-3'; 5'-cagaagcttctggatccacactcatgt-3').



Figure S8: Luciferase reporter gene assays

A. Tested NANOG1/2 DNA fragments. Different reporter plasmids containing the NANOG1-I to III and NANOG2-I to III regions were cloned into the pGL3-Luciferase plasmid. The promoter-less pGL3-Basic vector was used as negative control.

B. Luciferase reporter assays. All constructs were transiently co-transfected in 1 x 10^5 NTERA2 cells by using Lipofectamin-transfection. NTERA-2 cells were electroporated with 1 μ g of each of the pGL-3 constructs together with 25 ng pGL3-Renilla plasmid (internal control). All experiments were performed independently 3 times in triplicates and all measurements were made 24 h after transfection.

These experiments revealed that the presence of an upstream promoter element for both tested NANOG genes.

Figure S9: Western blot experiments performed with leukemia patient material



AML patients blot: C-terminal antibody @ NANOG

Western blot experiment using patient biopsy samples from individual AML patients (2-5 x 10^6 cells), along with soluble lysates prepared from NTERA2 and SEM cells. Blots were stained with the C-terminal antibody against NANOG. Only 4 out of 10 investigated leukemia samples had enough cells to perform this experiment. The displayed patients all express NANOG protein, most likely the NANOG2 protein.