

Figure S1. CD133 expression in patient tissues. (A) Representative images of high and low CD133 staining in TSCC tumor tissue and paired adjacent tissue (magnification, x200). (B) Quantification of tissues with high CD133 protein expression.

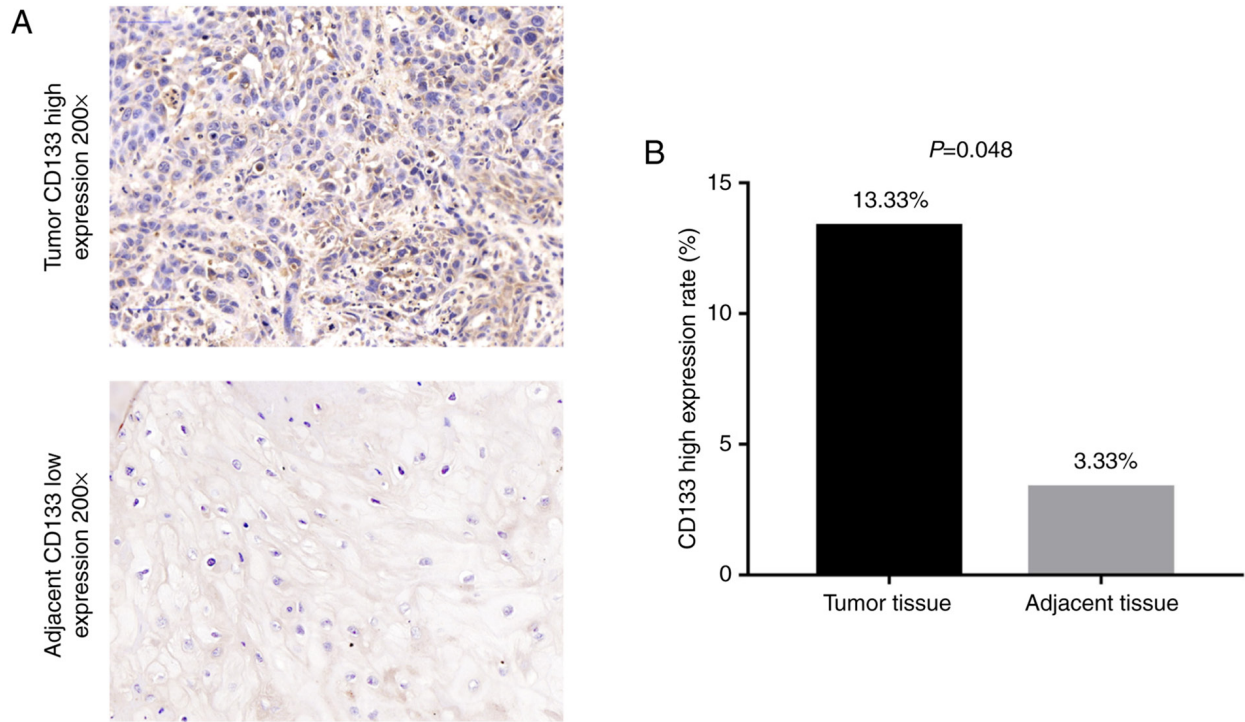


Figure S2. Flow cytometry analysis of ITGA7 cell surface expression. (A) Representatives plots and (B) quantification of the percentage of ITGA7-positive cells in ITGA7(-) and NC CAL-27 cells. (C) Representatives plots and (D) quantification of the percentage of ITGA7-positive cells in ITGA7(-) and NC HSC-4 cells. **P<0.01. ITGA7, integrin α 7; NC, negative control.

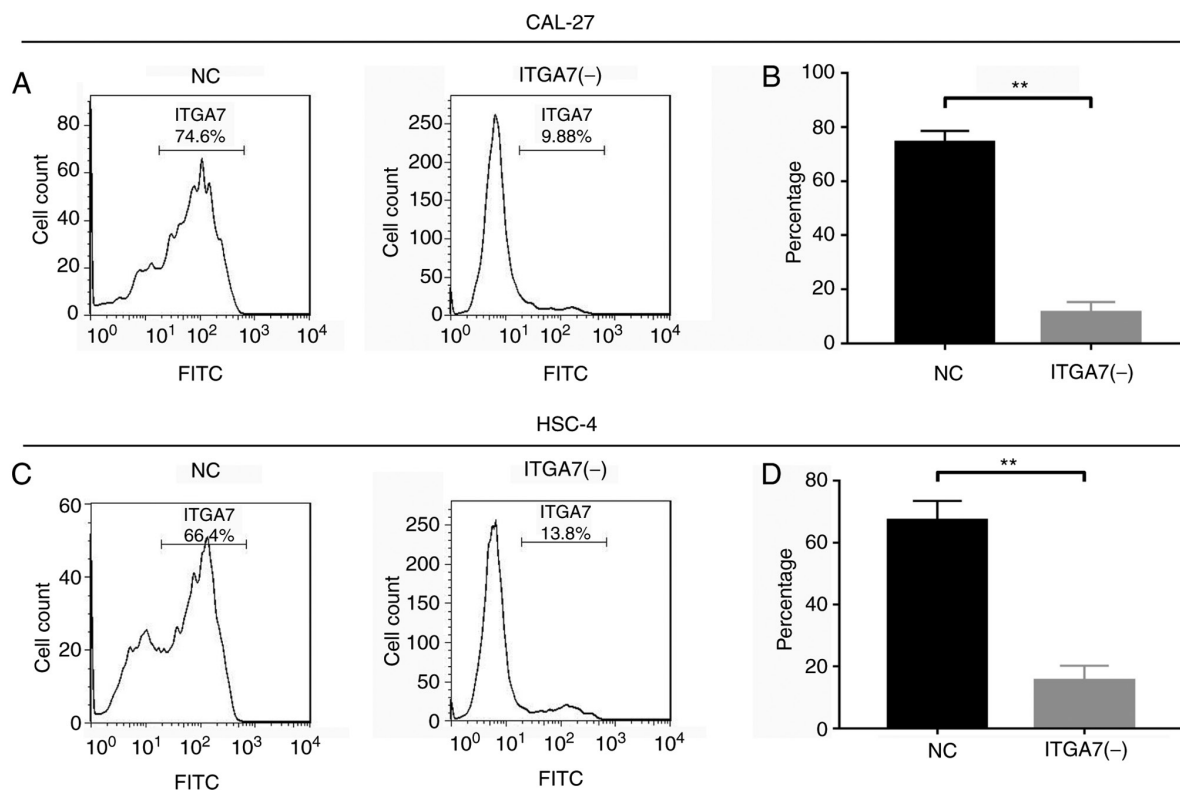


Figure S3. Immunofluorescence analysis. ITGA7 and CD133 expression levels in TSCC cell lines and a normal human oral keratinocyte cell line were detected by immunofluorescence. ITGA7, integrin $\alpha 7$; TSCC, tongue squamous cell carcinoma. Supplementary

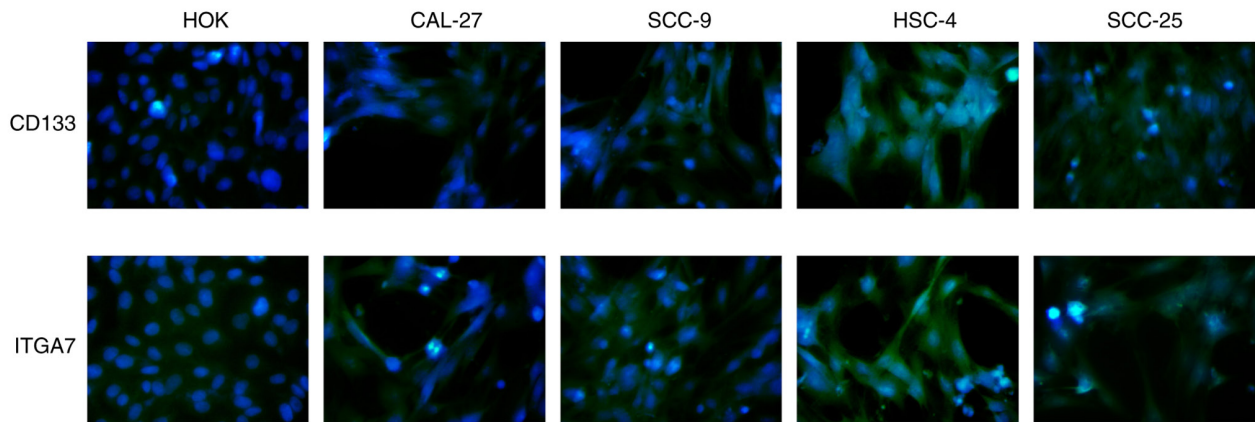


Figure S4. Western blot analysis of cancer stem cell markers. Cells were sorted based on their ITGA7 expression and subsequently the protein expression levels of ITAG7, CD24, CD44 and CD133 in ITGA7-positive and ITGA7-negative cells were detected by western blotting, in both the CAL-27 and HSC-4 cell lines. ITGA7, integrin $\alpha 7$.

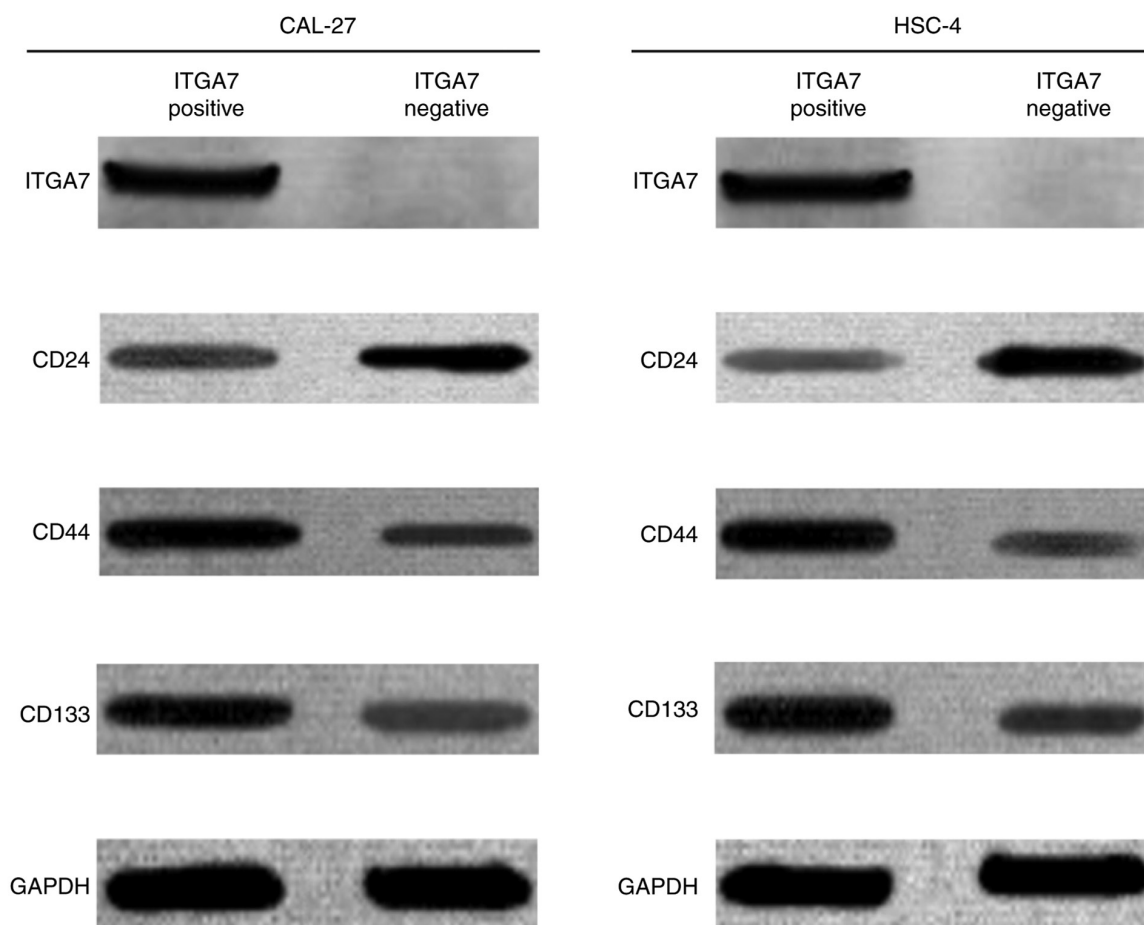


Table SI. Limiting dilution data.

Group	Limiting dilution (cells per well)			Frequency (1 in cells)			P-value
	1,000	100	10	Lower	Estimate	Upper	
CAL-27							
NC	24/24	18/24	10/24	79	50.8	32.7	1.7x10 ⁻⁷
ITGA7(-)	21/24	13/24	6/24	396	241.5	147.3	
HSC-4							
NC	24/24	13/24	5/24	169	104	63.9	1.47x10 ⁻⁵
ITGA7(-)	20/24	8/24	1/24	683	439	282.1	

Analysis was performed using the Extreme Limiting Dilution Analysis software (<http://bioinf.wehi.edu.au/software/elda/>).