



**Supplementary Figure 1. Transient hypoplasia of the lymphatic vessels in newborn *Vegfc*<sup>+/-</sup> mice.** (a) Whole mount staining for VEGFR-3 shows that the subserosal lymphatic vessels are fewer in number and hypoplastic (white arrowheads) or hyperplastic (black arrowheads) in newborn *Vegfc*<sup>+/-</sup> pups when compared to the *Vegfc*<sup>+/+</sup> littermates. The abnormal lymphatic vessels were associated with accumulation of chylous fluid into the abdomen. P2; postnatal day 2 (b) The lymphatic vessels in P2 *Vegfc*<sup>+/-</sup> pups normalized during few postnatal weeks and the lymphatic vessels in most organs were normal in adult (3 months old) *Vegfc*<sup>+/-</sup> mice. (c, d) In addition to the intestinal lymphatic vessels, there was general lymphatic vessel hypoplasia in the *Vegfc*<sup>+/-</sup> mice after birth. The sternum (c) and the diaphragm (d) of P2 pups are shown as examples. Scale bars (a) 1 mm, (b) 500  $\mu$ m, (c and d) 1 mm.