

Original Article

High expression of NSUN5 promotes cell proliferation via cell cycle regulation in colorectal cancer

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Received November 18, 2019; Accepted June 2, 2020; Epub July 15, 2020; Published July 30, 2020

Abstract: NSUN5, a gene encodes a cytosine-5 RNA methyltransferase, is rarely mentioned in cancers. Our study is the first one to evaluate the role of NSUN5 in the progression of colorectal cancer. Data from TCGA was used to show the different expression of NSUN5 between CRC tumor tissues and adjacent normal ones. The NSUN5 expression in the tissue microarray was detected by immunohistochemistry (IHC). qRT-PCR was conducted for NSUN5 expression examination in CRC cell lines. Cell proliferation was analyzed by the Celigo machine. GESA and correlation analysis were performed to reveal the possible underlying mechanism. The effects of NSUN5 expression on CRC cell behavior in vitro were analyzed by flow cytometry and β -galactosidase staining. The expression of cell-cycle related proteins were evaluated by western blot. Subcutaneously implanted tumor model was carried out for animal experiment. NSUN5 expression was up-regulated in CRC tumor tissues and cells, and associated with advanced tumor stages (III, IV). NSUN5 could promote cell proliferation, trigger cell cycle arrest in vitro and boost tumor growth in vivo. In addition, knockdown of NSUN5 could lead to a higher expression of Rb and a lower expression of CDK4, CDK6, p-Rb and CCNE1, but made no difference on P21, Bcl-2, caspase3 and C-Caspase3 of CRC cells. Taken together, we identify NSUN5 as a promoter in CRC development via cell cycle regulation.

Keywords: NUSN5, new targets, colorectal cancer, cell cycle, cell proliferation, tumor growth

Introduction

The clinical therapeutic of colorectal cancer (CRC) has been improving over the years mainly due to molecular-target therapies. However, the incidence and mortality rate of CRC are still major concerns in the prevention and control of malignant tumors in China and worldwide. In addition, a younger trend in the affected population, drug resistance and limited therapeutic targets are urgent to be solved [1, 2]. Although few patients, such as advanced patients with microsatellite instability-high (MSI-h), can benefit from immunotherapies [3, 4], finding more driven genes is still an irreplaceable strategy. Compare to study discovered therapeutic targets in-depth or apply targets in other tumors to CRC, identifying novel genes is also significant.

NSUN5 is a member of the NOL1/Nop2/sun protein family. The family is highly conserved from archaea to eukaryotes and has close contact with RNA methylation because of their S-adenosyl methionine binding-domain and their relationship to Escherichia coli Sun/Fmu protein that methylates C967 in 16S ribosomal RNA (rRNA) [5, 6]. There are six members in NSUN family: Nsun2 (Misu), Nsun3, Nsun4, Nsun5 (Wbscr20, Wbscr20a), Nsun6 (NOPD1) and Nsun7. These members are currently reported to function as an RNA methyltransferase. Among them, NSUN2, as the most studied member, was vital for mediating m5C installation on message RNA (mRNA) and involved in transfer RNA (tRNA) modification, neurocognitive condition and stem cell differentiation [7, 8]. What's more, NSUN2 was associated with kinds of cancer progression by promoting cell

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proliferation and could be a potential marker for prognosis [7, 9]. And NSUN6, apart from a regulator of tRNA [10], recently was also reported to be involved in promoting bone metastasis [11]. NSUN4 played an essential role in translation and assembly of mitochondria by MTERF4-NSUN4 protein complex [12, 13] and NSUN3 also focused on mitochondrial tRNA modifications and regulated embryonic stem cell differentiation [14-16]. While NSUN7 mainly functioned in germ cell motility and NSUN7 mutation might result in male sterility or subfertility [17, 18]. As for NSUN5, most current researches are still based on its function as an RNA methyltransferase. However, its role in other biological processes, especially the tumor progression, is rarely mentioned.

Therefore, we conducted this study to elucidate the involvement of NSUN5 in CRC, showing that its role in CRC progression. We found that NSUN5 was highly expressed in CRC tissue compared to normal ones, both in TCGA data and our tissue microarray. Then, cell proliferation was hugely inhibited after the knockdown of NSUN5. Accompany with this, cell cycle arrest was enhanced, but not apoptosis and senescence. By GSEA, NSUN5 was involved in cell cycle and had relevance with cell-cycle related genes and the relevance was verified by in RKO and HT29 cells transfected with shNC and shNSUN5. Finally, knockdown of NSUN5 also inhibited tumor growth in vivo. In all, this research suggested that NSUN5 promoted CRC proliferation and progression mainly via cell cycle regulation.

Materials and methods

Integrative analysis of TCGA and GSEA

mRNA-seq data of CRC patients was downloaded from The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA) (<https://portal.gdc.cancer.gov/>) [19]. The NSUN5 expression of tumor tissues in all CRC patients were compared with that of paired normal tissues. According to the tumor stage, CRC patients were divided into four subgroups (stage I, II, III, IV), each of which was compared with the expression of NSUN5. Gene set enrichment analysis (GSEA) is performed by GSEA 3.0 software to determine whether a predefined set of genes is significantly different between the two groups: high and low NSUN5.

Tissue microarray and immunohistochemistry

Paraffin-embedded tissues were deparaffinized at 60°C about 2 hours, hydrated in ethylalcohol, and blocked by 3% H₂O₂ for 30 minutes. After put into citric acid retrievals at 100°C for 15 minutes and blockage with 5% bovine serum albumin for 1 hour, the slides were incubated with primary antibody at 4°C overnight, then incubated with HRP labeled secondary antibody (YESEN, Shanghai, China) at room temperature for 1 h. Finally, the slides were stained with diaminobenzidine (DAB, Gene Tech, Shanghai, China) and the results were captured using Nikon Eclipse 80i microscope.

NSUN5 staining was evaluated based on intensity scores (0, negative; 1, weak; 2, moderate; and 3, strong staining) and the percentage scores (1, ≤ 25%; 2, 25%-50%; 3, 50%-75%; 4, > 75%). The positive cell percentage and the staining intensity of the target cells were scored at each tissue point on the tissue microarray. The products of the two were viewed as the final scores: 0, negative (-); 1 to 4, weak (+), 5 to 8, moderate (++), and 9 to 12, strong (+++).

Cell culture and reagents

CRC cell lines including RKO, HT29 and HEK293 cells were purchased from ATCC company (Manassas, VA, USA). RKO, HT29, and HEK293 were cultured in RPMI1640, Macoy 5A and DMEM medium (SIGMA, New York, USA) respectively supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (Life Technologies, Shanghai, China), and antibiotics (100 µg/mL streptomycin and 100 U/mL penicillin) in a 5% CO₂ incubator at 37°C.

Cell transfection

The lentivirus contain NSUN5 shRNA (shNSUN5) and corresponding controls (shNC) were synthesis from Genechem (Shanghai, China), the sequence (5'-CCGGCCCCAATGAGGTCTGTTG-GACTCGAGTCCAACAGGTCCTCATTCCGGTTT-3') led to the largest decrease was selected. The lentivirus were transfected into RKO and HT-29 by a Lipofectamine 3000 (Invitrogen, New York, USA) according to the manufacturer's specification. After transfection for 48 hours, the knockdown efficiency was evaluated

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by quantitative reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction (qRT-PCR) and Western blot (WB).

Cell proliferation

CRC cells were plated at a density of 2000/well. From the second day after the boarding, Celigo Image Cytometer checked the plate once a day in the same view and continuously for 3-5 days; The numbers of fluorescent cells were accurately calculated and photoed in each scanning.

Cell cycle, apoptosis and senescence detection

To analyze the cell cycle, cells transfected with shNSUN5 and shNC were digested and washed twice with precooled D-Hanks and fixed with 75% precooled ethanol. Preparation of cell staining solution: 40× PI (2 mg/mL):100× RNase (10 mg/mL):1× D-Hanks = 25:10:1000. Then, the cells were washed with D-Hanks and resuspended in 600 μl of staining solution in the dark at room temperature for 20 min. Subsequently, the cell cycle analysis was performed by flow cytometry using a Beckmen LX instrument.

For the apoptosis analysis, an APC-Annexin V Apoptosis Detection Kit (Biolegend, New York, USA) was used according to the manufacturer's instructions. Cells transfected with shNSUN5 and shNC were digested and washed twice with precooled PBS and resuspended in 1× binding buffer. Then, the cells were stained with 5 μl Annexin V-APC and 5 μl propidium iodide (PI) in the dark for 15 min at room temperature. The apoptosis rate was measured by flow cytometry using a Beckmen LX instrument.

The cell senescence was detected by the Cellular senescence β-galactosidase staining kit (Beyotime, Shanghai, China) and performed according to the protocol.

Subcutaneously implanted tumor model

The animal experiments were approved by the Animal Ethics Committee of Second Hospital, School of Medicine, Zhejiang University. HT29-shNC and HT29-shNSUN5 cells in logarithmic growth phase were digested and suspended in a mixture of PBS and Matrigel (ratio 3:1) to form

a single cell suspension. The cell concentration was adjusted to $8 \times 10^6 / 200 \mu\text{l}$. Eight BALB/C female nude mice (4-6 weeks old; 18-20 g) were divided into two groups with 4 mice in each group. The 200 μl of homogeneous suspension of HT29-shNC and HT29-shNSUN5 cells (containing 8×10^6 cells) was injected subcutaneously into the right armpit skin of nude mice. The size of subcutaneous tumors was measured with vernier caliper every 3 days. The length (a) and short diameter (b) of the transplanted tumors were recorded. The volume of the transplanted tumors was calculated and the growth curve was drawn according to the volume formula: $V (\text{mm}^3) = (a \times b^2) / 2$. On the 28st day after inoculation, nude mice were killed under anesthesia, and the tumors were removed and weighed.

Western blot (WB)

The protein of tissue or cells were extracted using radio immunoprecipitation assay (RIPA) buffer (Beyotime, Shanghai, China) and the protein concentration was measured by bicinchoninic (BCA) kit (ThermoFisher, New York, USA). Protein samples extracted from CRC cells were separated via 10% SDS-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis, then transferred to polyvinylidene difluoride (PVDF) membrane and blocked with 5% non-fat milk. The membranes were incubated at 4°C overnight with primary antibody, followed by secondary HRP-linked antibody for 2 hours at room temperature. At last, the signal was detected by enhanced chemiluminescence (ECL) detection kit (ThermoFisher, New York, USA). The primary antibodies included in this study were in [Table S1](#).

Quantitative RT-PCR

Total RNAs from cells and tissues were obtained by using a Total RNA extraction kit (Solarbio). The Takara PrimeScript RT Master Mix kit (Takara Biotechnology, China) was used to conduct reverse transcription. Real-time PCR analysis was performed by the SYBR Premix Ex Taq II kit (Takara Biotechnology) and Applied Biosystems 7500 Fast Real-Time PCR System. GAPDH were used for endogenous reference. Experiments were repeated three times and the $\Delta\Delta\text{Ct}$ method was applied to calculate the relative expression level of mRNA. The primers (Genechem) used are as following: NSUN5: Forward, TGTACTCCAGCAACTCCAGA; Reverse,

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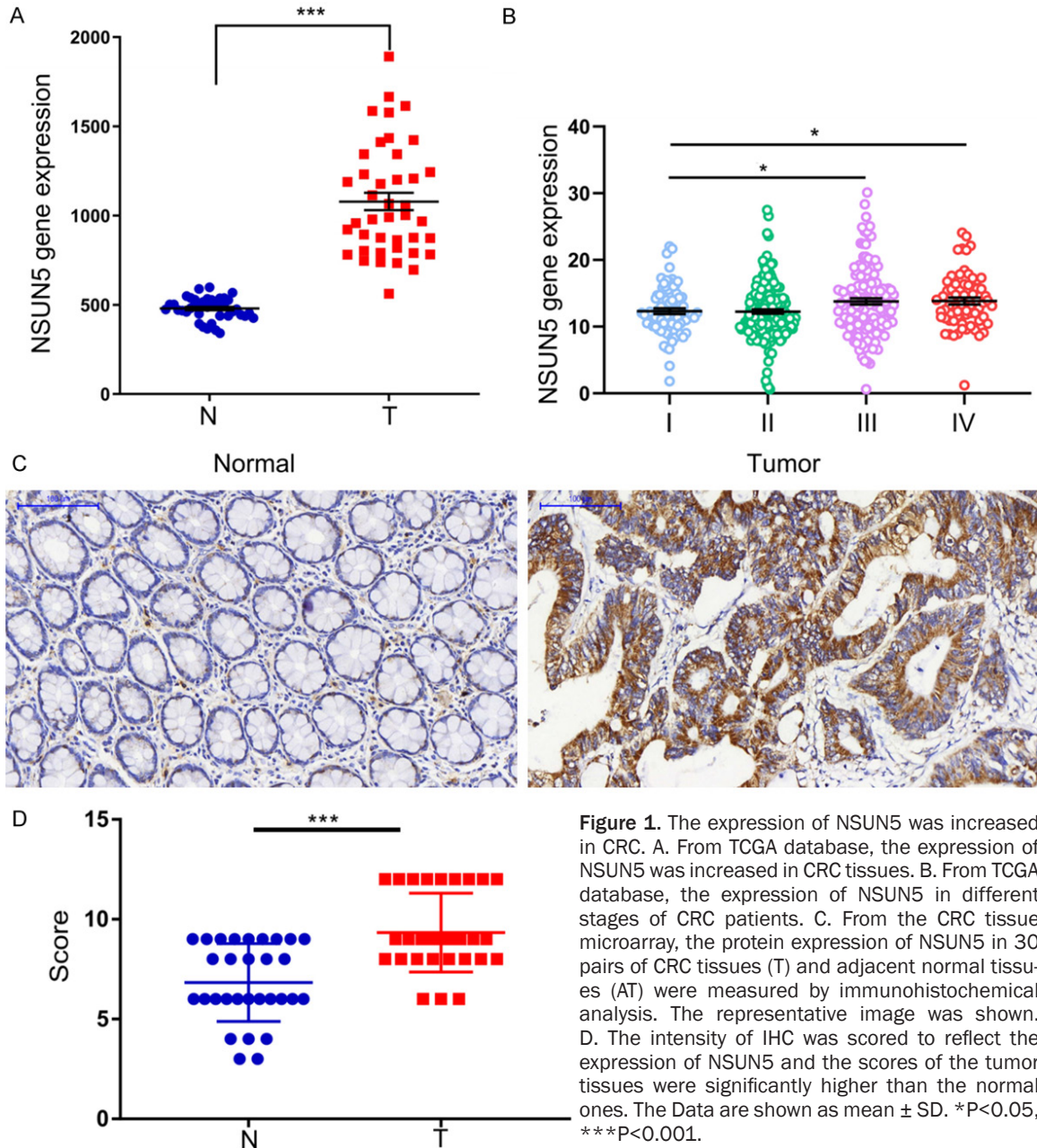


Figure 1. The expression of NSUN5 was increased in CRC. A. From TCGA database, the expression of NSUN5 was increased in CRC tissues. B. From TCGA database, the expression of NSUN5 in different stages of CRC patients. C. From the CRC tissue microarray, the protein expression of NSUN5 in 30 pairs of CRC tissues (T) and adjacent normal tissues (AT) were measured by immunohistochemical analysis. The representative image was shown. D. The intensity of IHC was scored to reflect the expression of NSUN5 and the scores of the tumor tissues were significantly higher than the normal ones. The Data are shown as mean \pm SD. * $P < 0.05$, *** $P < 0.001$.

CTTCCAACAGGTCTCATTCC. GAPDH: Forward, TGACTTCAACAGCGACACCCA; Reverse, CACCC-TGTTGCTGTAGCCAAA.

Statistical analysis

The results were exhibited as mean \pm SD. Student's t-test or one-way ANOVA was used to analyze data from two or multiple groups, respectively. Such as the expression of NSUN5 between normal and tumor tissues, the expression of NSUN5 between cell lines transfected with lentivirus of sh-NSUN5 or sh-NC.

$P < 0.05$ was considered statistically significant. All the experiments were repeated at least three times.

Results

NSUN5 was up-regulated in CRC

Preliminary data from the TCGA database showed that the expression of NSUN5 was significantly increased in CRC tissues as compared with adjacent normal tissues ($P < 0.001$, **Figure 1A**). Moreover, CRC patients in stage III-

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Table 1. The expression of NSUN5 of tumor (T) and normal (N) tissues in the tissue microarray

Numbers	IHC intensity scores	
	Tumor	Normal
1	12	4
2	8	6
3	8	6
4	9	6
5	8	6
6	8	6
7	8	9
8	9	9
9	12	8
10	9	6
11	9	6
12	12	9
13	9	4
14	9	9
15	12	9
16	8	9
17	9	6
18	12	4
19	12	8
20	12	6
21	6	8
22	9	9
23	9	8
24	9	8
25	6	3
26	9	6
27	9	6
28	12	9
29	12	9
30	6	3
T value	5.876	
P value	<0.0001	

IV exhibited a higher NSUN5 expression than the patients in stage I-II ($P<0.05$, **Figure 1B**) and seemingly a shorter disease-free survival (DFS) (the data were not shown). Furthermore, we validated the expression difference in our tissue microarray, which contained 30 pairs of tumor and adjacent normal tissues. The expression of NSUN5 was evaluated by IHC (**Figure 1C**) and the results showed that 19 tumor tissues were strong and 11 were moderate while 9 normal tissues were strong, 16 were moderate and 5 were weak (**Table 1**). The

results identified that NSUN5 was markedly up-regulated in CRC ($P<0.001$, **Figure 1D**).

Knockdown of NSUN5 inhibited cells growth in vitro

By qRT-PCR, NSUN5 was identified as a highly expressed gene in four CRC cell lines, including RKO, HCT 116, LoVo and HT-29 (**Figure 2A**). To evaluate the function of NSUN5 in CRC, HT-29 and RKO were chosen to be transfected with shNSUN5 and shNC. The efficiency of knockdown was examined by qRT-PCR ($P<0.01$, **Figure 2B**) and WB (**Figure 2C**). Celigo Image Cytometer was applied to count the cell and take photo of fluorescence images. The results showed that the cell proliferation of the RKO-shNSUN5 was obviously slower than that of RKO-shNC and fluorescence images of cells in same views from day1 to day5 were taken photo ($P<0.001$, **Figure 2D**).

NSUN5 was associated with cell cycle according to bioinformatic analysis

NSUN5 was rarely mentioned in cancers, so there were few researches about the mechanism that NSUN5 promoted cancer progression. To elucidate the mechanism of NSUN5 to promote cell proliferation, we searched for the pathways NSUN5 might involved in via KEGG enrichment analysis and the result showed NSUN5 was markedly cell cycle-related (**Figure 3A**). Further, we performed the correlation analysis between NSUN5 and cell cycle genes and the result showed NSUN5 had a positive relation with CDK1/2/4, CCNB1, CCNE1, CCND1 and TP53, especially CDK4 and CCNE1 while a negative relation with CDK6 and CDKN1A (**Figure 3B**).

Knockdown of NSUN5 triggered CRC cell cycle arrest

Next, we explored the mechanism behind the promotion. According to the clue from the GSEA, we first supposed that the reason was related with the cell cycle, while the apoptosis, necrosis and senescence were also examined. After knockdown of NSUN5, both HT-29 and RKO cells showed significant cell cycle arrest, especially HT-29. The flow cytometry analysis showed that compared to the HT-29-NC, the percentage of HT-29-shNSUN5 in G0/G1 phase was markedly increased ($P<0.01$, **Figure 4A**),

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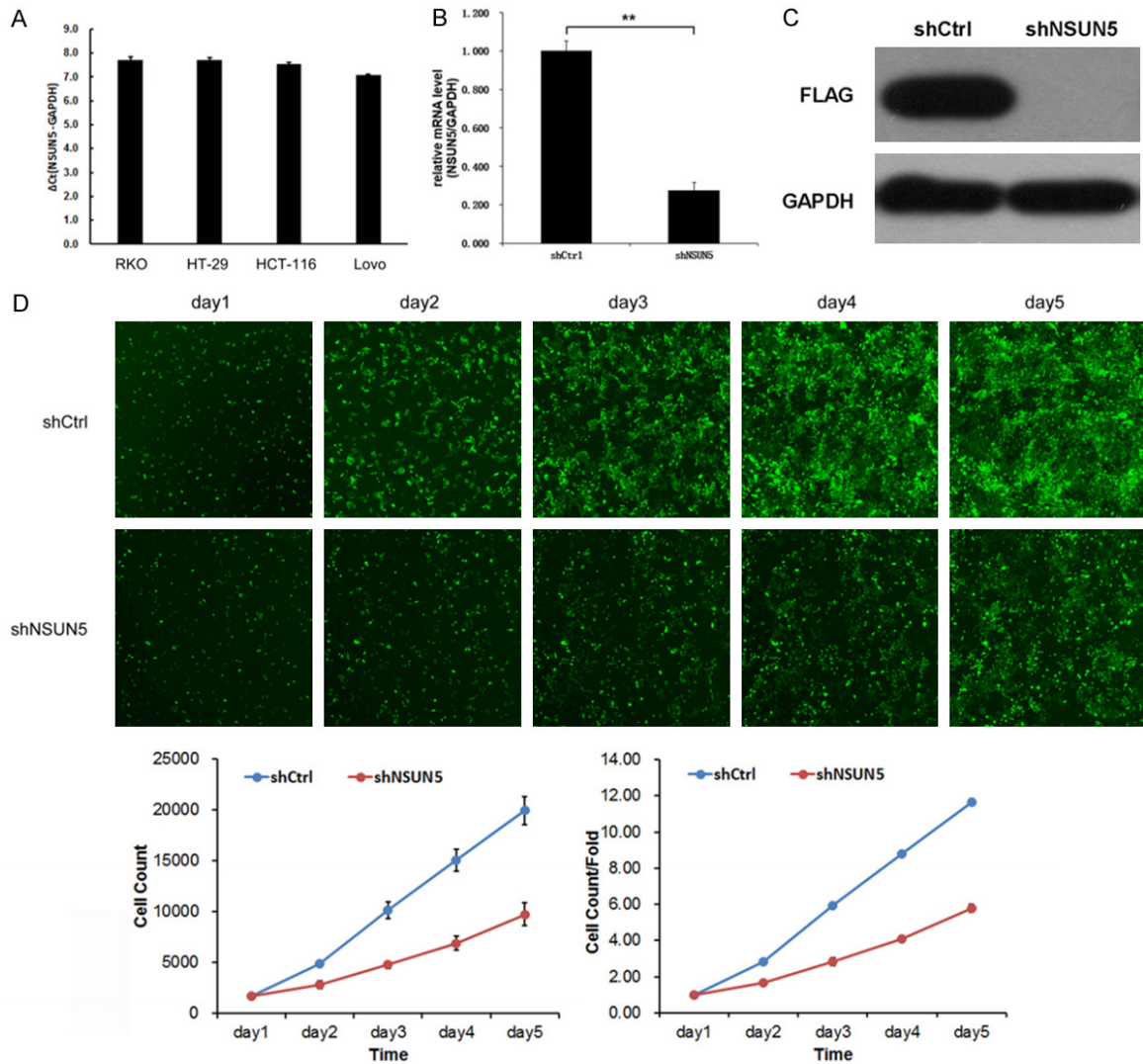


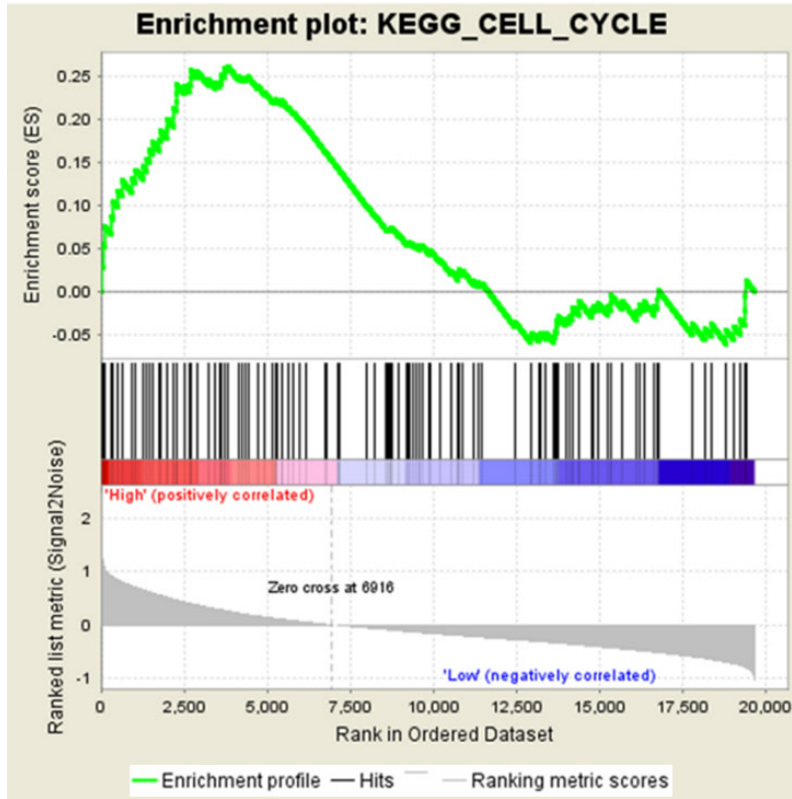
Figure 2. NSUN5 knockdown inhibited cell proliferation in vitro. A. The expression of NSUN5 in CRC cell lines (RKO, HT-29, HCT-116, Lovo) was detected by qRT-PCR assay. B, C. HT-29 cells were transfected with lentivirus of shNSUN5 or sh-NC, and NSUN5 expression was identified by qRT-PCR and WB. D. Cell proliferation was examined by cell-counting machine Celigo, and the fluorescent image of RKO-shNSUN5 and RKO-shNC was taken photo by the machine from day1 to day5. The two curves showed the cell number and cell number/fold change over time of HT-29-shNSUN5 and HT-29-shNC. The Data are shown as mean \pm SD. * $P < 0.05$, *** $P < 0.001$.

but the percentage in S and G2/M phase was decreased ($P < 0.05$, **Figure 4A**). The consistent result was also observed in the RKO-shNSUN5 and RKO-shNC ($P < 0.05$, **Figure 4B**). In addition, we measured the effect of NSUN5 knockdown on HT-29 and RKO cell apoptosis and senescence. There was no difference in apoptosis and necrosis after NSUN5 knockdown, as determined by flow cytometry analysis (**Figure 4C**). Downregulation of NSUN5 also made no difference in HT-29 cells senescence, as suggested by β -galactosidase

staining (**Figure 4D**). Then, we examined the expression of cell cycle associated proteins in RKO and HT29 cells transfected with shNC and shNSUN5. First, a significantly higher expression of Rb while a lower expression of p-Rb were observed. Further, a decline expression of CCNE1, CDK4 and CDK6 was acquired after knockdown, but the expression of P21 had no difference (**Figures 5A, 5B, S1, S3, S4**). As for apoptosis associated proteins that caspase3, cleaved-caspase3 and Bcl-2 did not show a difference (**Figures 5C, S1, S2**).

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A



B

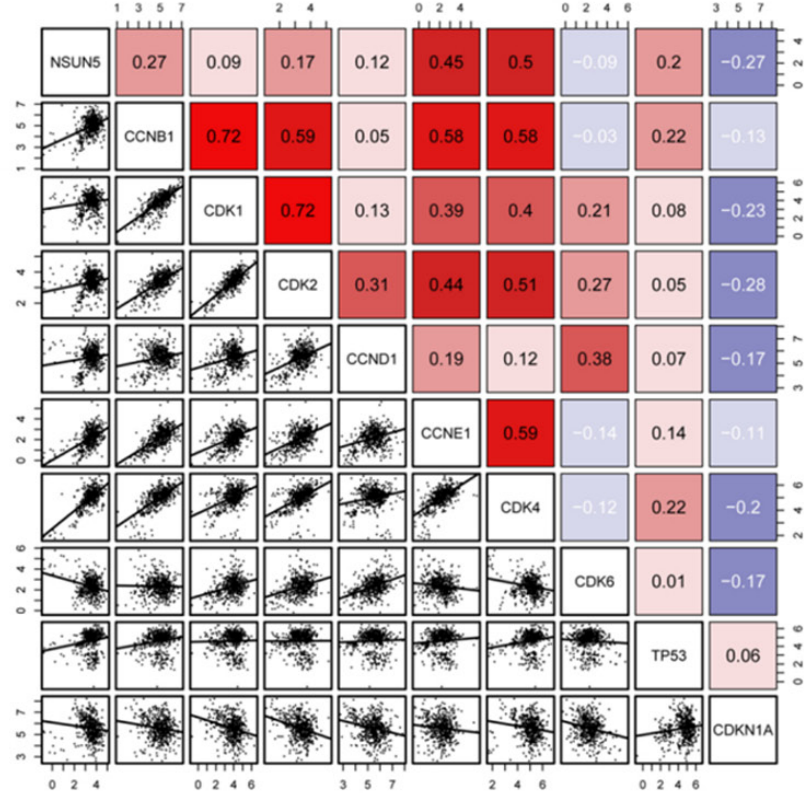
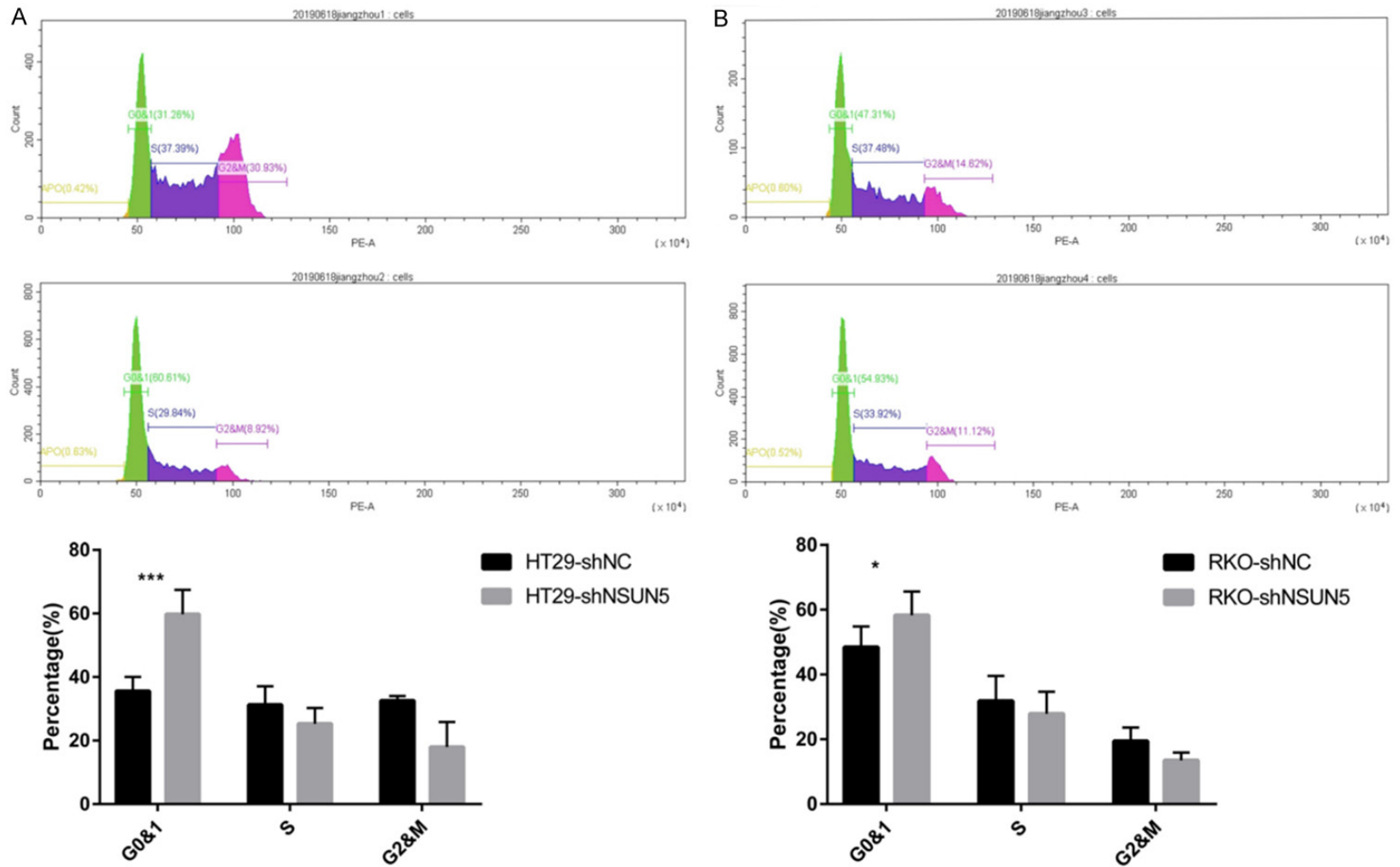


Figure 3. The correlation between NSUN5 and cell cycle pathways. A. GSEA analysis showed NSUN5 was enriched in cell cycle-related genes in CRC. B. Correlation analysis showed NSUN5 was correlated with CDK4, CCNE1, CCND1, CDK2, CDK1, CCNB1, TP53. GSEA, Gene set enrichment analysis.

NSUN5 promotes CRC progression via cell cycle regulation



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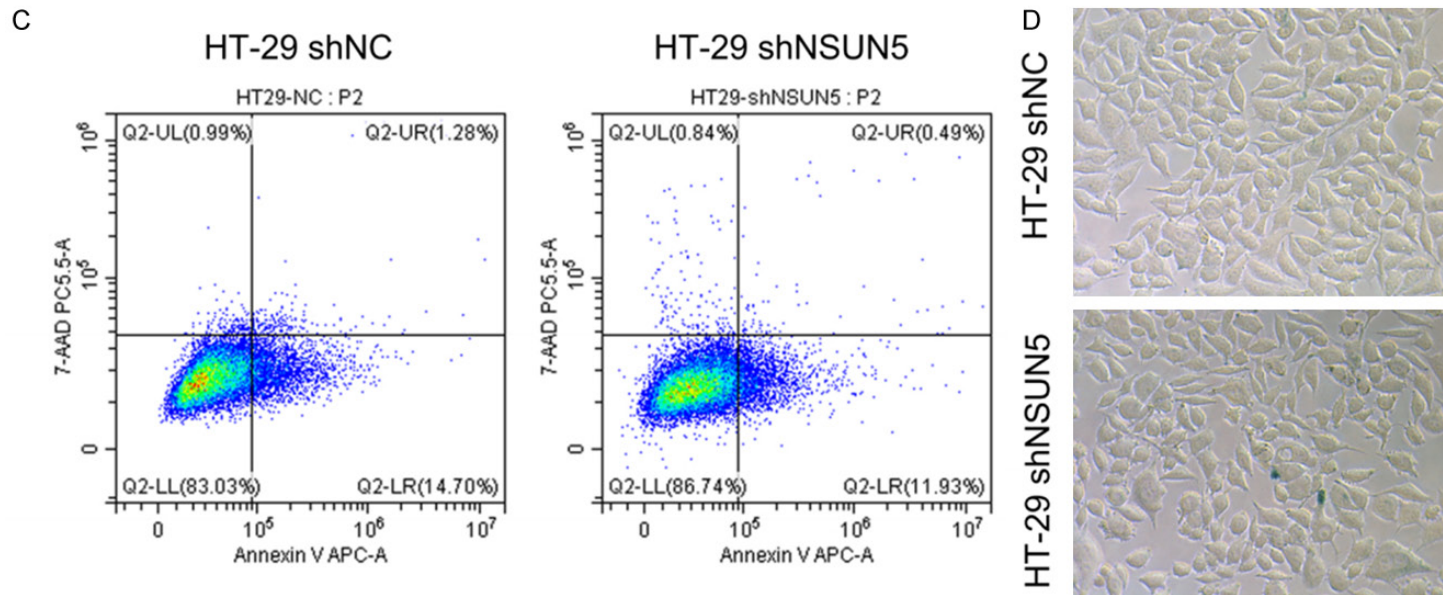


Figure 4. NSUN5 knockdown triggered cell cycle arrest. A, B. Representative flow cytometry analysis of the cell cycle distribution of RKO and HT29 cells transfected with shNC and shNSUN5. C. Apoptosis rates of HT29 cells transfected with shNC and shNSUN5, as determined by flow cytometry. D. The cell senescence status of HT29 cells transfected with shNC and shNSUN5, as detected by β -Galactosidase staining. The Data are shown as mean \pm SD. *P<0.05, ***P<0.001.

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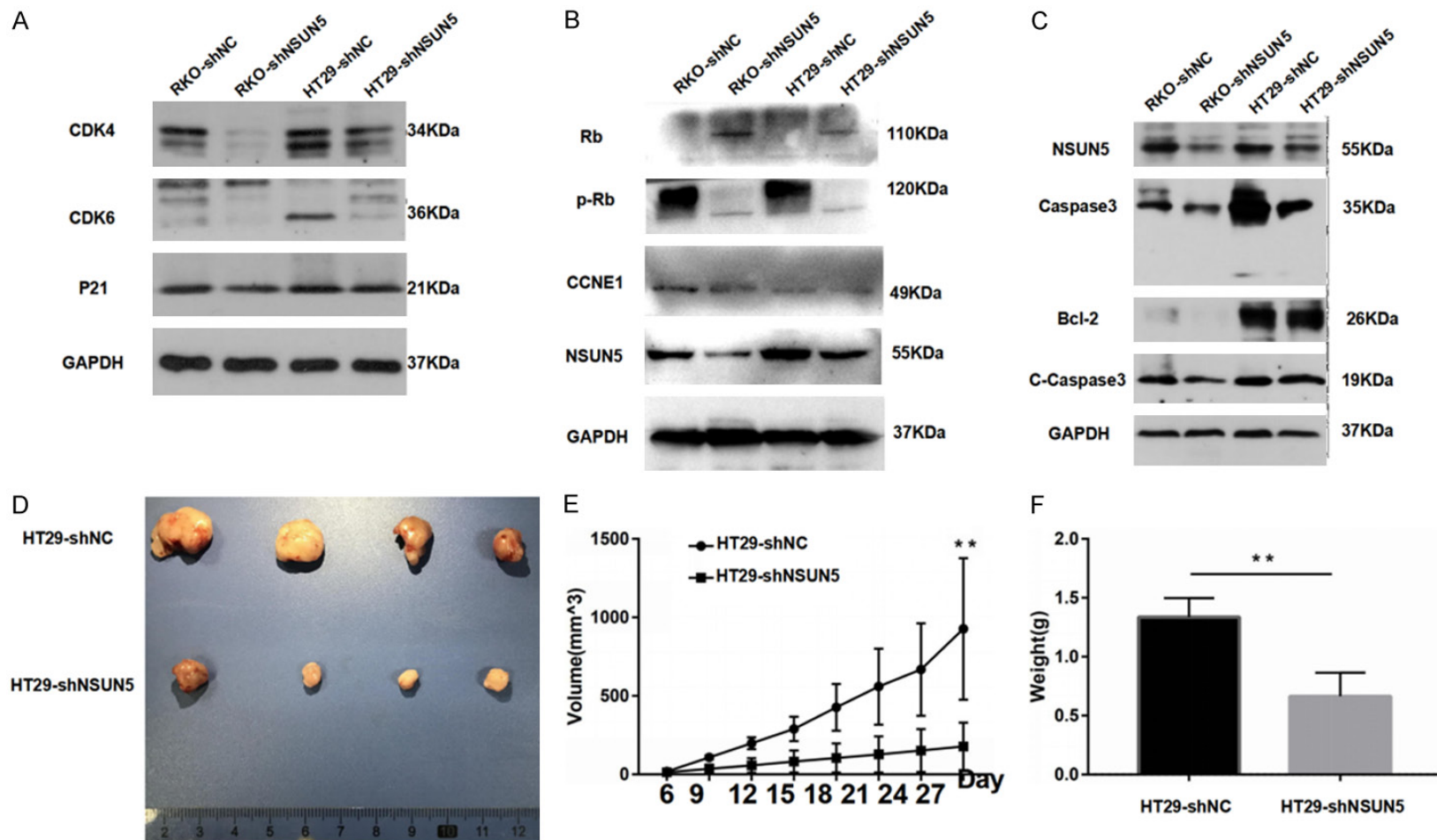


Figure 5. Knockdown of NSUN5 inhibited cell cycle-related signaling activity and cell proliferation in vivo. A. Western blotting detection of CDK4, CDK6 and P21 expression in RKO and HT29 cells transfected with shNC and shNSUN5. B. Western blotting detection of Rb, p-Rb and CCNE1 expression in RKO and HT29 cells transfected with shNC and shNSUN5. C. The expression of apoptosis proteins that caspase3, cleaved-caspase3 and Bcl-2 was tested by western blot assay in RKO and HT29 cells transfected with shNC and shNSUN5. D-F. Subcutaneously implanted tumor model in nude mouse was used for evaluating the effect of NSUN5 on tumor growth. D. The image of subcutaneous xenograft tumors of HT29 cells transfected with shNC and shNSUN5. E. The curve of xenograft volume over time. F. The comparison of tumor weight between the two groups. The Data are shown as mean \pm SD. **P<0.01.

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The results proved that the cell cycle arrest was a considerable reason why NSUN5 promoted CRC cell growth.

Knockdown of NSUN5 showed inhibiting effect on cell growth in vivo

To evaluate the oncogenic role of NSUN5 in vivo, we observed the effect of NSUN5 on tumor growth based on a subcutaneously implanted tumor model in nude mouse. Tumor volume was recorded every 3 days, and the mice were finally sacrificed after 28 days. We verified that NSUN5 knockdown effectively slowed the tumor growth (**Figure 5D**) and reduced tumor volume ($P < 0.01$, **Figure 5E**) and weight ($P < 0.01$, **Figure 5F**).

Discussion

No matter the incidence or mortality, CRC is a major issue to be addressed. Apart from traditional chemo or radiotherapies, and considering emerging immunotherapy (such as immune checkpoint blockade) is currently just for minority patients (such as microsatellite instability-high, MSI) [20], molecular target therapies remain the current irreplaceable area for the breakthrough of CRC treatment. However, current targets are limited to oncogenes or antiangiogenesis, such as EGFR or VEGF [21, 22]. Identifying new targets may be a wise strategy to breakthrough the bottleneck. Here, we found a rarely-reported target named NSUN5, which is an RNA methyltransferase. All the time, NSUN5 was considered to be linked to the nerve system, but not tumor, and its function was about cerebral cortex developing, agenesis and hypomyelination of the corpus callosum and cognitive deficits [23, 24]. Until recently, epigenetic loss of NSUN5 was proved to drive a stress adaptive translational program in glioma by targeting ribosomes [25].

Here, we are the first one who confirmed NSUN5 was an oncogene in CRC. Data from TCGA showed that NSUN5 was highly expressed in CRC tumor tissues and associated with advanced tumor stages, which revealed its role in promoting CRC development. These differences have not been reported before. Then we verified the results by the tissue microarray. Also we found that several CRC cell lines were highly expressed NSUN5. So we knocked down NSUN5 in cell lines, which resulted in an apparent reduction in cells proliferation but an

enhancement in cell cycle arrest, but not apoptosis or senescence. Therefore, we inferred that NSUN5 promoted CRC promotion via a cell cycle-related pathway. The analysis of GSEA and correlation analysis were consistent, which suggested NSUN5 was linked to cell cycle-related genes such as CDK4 and CCNE1. Such correlations were also verified by WB in cell lines. Furthermore, a strong correlation between NSUN5 and Rb was identified while P21 was little influenced. The results suggested that NSUN5 promoted CRC cells proliferation mainly through Rb-CDKs signal transduction. Finally, in vivo, CRC cell lines knocked down of NSUN5 showed a rather slower proliferation than control groups.

As we all know in recent years, the progression of tumors may not lay at only genes, but also epigenetic modification, such as mRNA, even long-non-coding RNA (lncRNA) [26]. Growing evidences led us to pay attention to the dysfunction of RNA modification [27, 28]. NSUN5 is just such a member of RNA methyltransferases. In Janin's model, NSUN5 showed tumor-suppressor function in vivo glioma models, and an unmethylated status of NSUN5 led to long-term survival in glioma patients [25]. While in our study, NSUN5 promoted CRC progression. The difference may due to mechanisms in two kinds of tumors. In glioma, the silencing of NSUN5 by DNA methylation affected never system, which was consistent with other researches [27, 29]. While in the CRC microenvironment, NSUN5 promoted progression through the cell cycle. NSUN5 was also reported to be associated with cell growth before. The study investigated how NSUN5 deficiency influenced the development of the cerebral cortex revealed that the cortical of NSUN5-KO mice was thinner than wild type ones due to an abnormal laminar organization and a shorter processes of pyramidal cells [29]. Methylation of NSUN5 could also modulate organismal lifespan and enhance stress resistance in a conserved mechanism [5]. In our study, we also detected the senescence, but not a significant difference.

In conclusion, we proved firstly that NSUN5 was a promoter in the progression of CRC mainly through cell cycle regulation. The decrease of NSUN5 expression resulted in a significant cell cycle arrest. Therefore, we supposed that NSUN5 could be a potential target in CRC.

Acknowledgements

This study was funded by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (Grant no. 81902629, PC) and the National Natural Science Foundation of China (Grant no. 81702803, GMH).

Disclosure of conflict of interest

None.

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Table S1. List of primary antibodies used in the study

Antibody	Applications	Company (CAT#)
NSUN5	IHC, WB	Ab121633
CDK4	WB	Proteintech 11026-1-AP
CDK6	WB	Proteintech 14052-1-AP
P21	WB	CST#2974
Rb	WB	CST#9309
pRb	WB	CST#8516
CCNE1	WB	Ab85639
Caspase3	WB	Ab13847
C-caspase3	WB	Ab2303
Bcl-2	WB	Ab32124
GAPDH	WB	Proteintech 60004-1-Ig
β -Tublin	WB	Proteintech10094-1-AP
7-AAD	FCM	Biolegend 640930
APC Annexin V	FCM	Biolegend 640930
PI	FCM	Biolegend 421301

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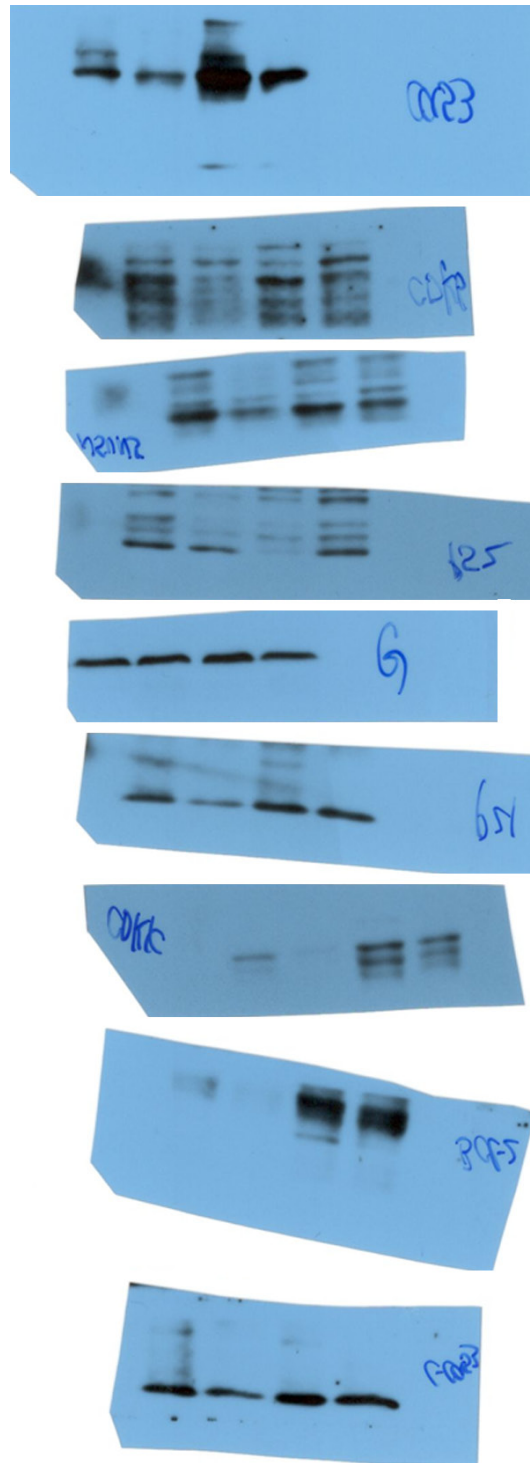


Figure S1. The original western images of GAPDH, CDK4, CDK6, NSUN5, Bcl-2, Caspase-3, Cleaved-caspase-3.

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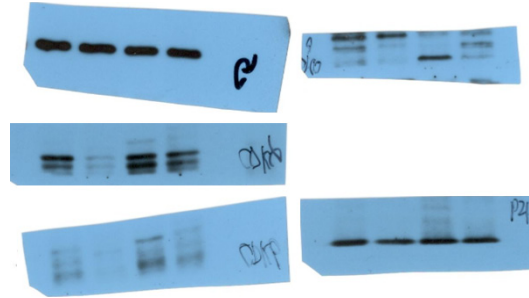


Figure S2. The original western images of GAPDH, CDK4, CDK6, P21.

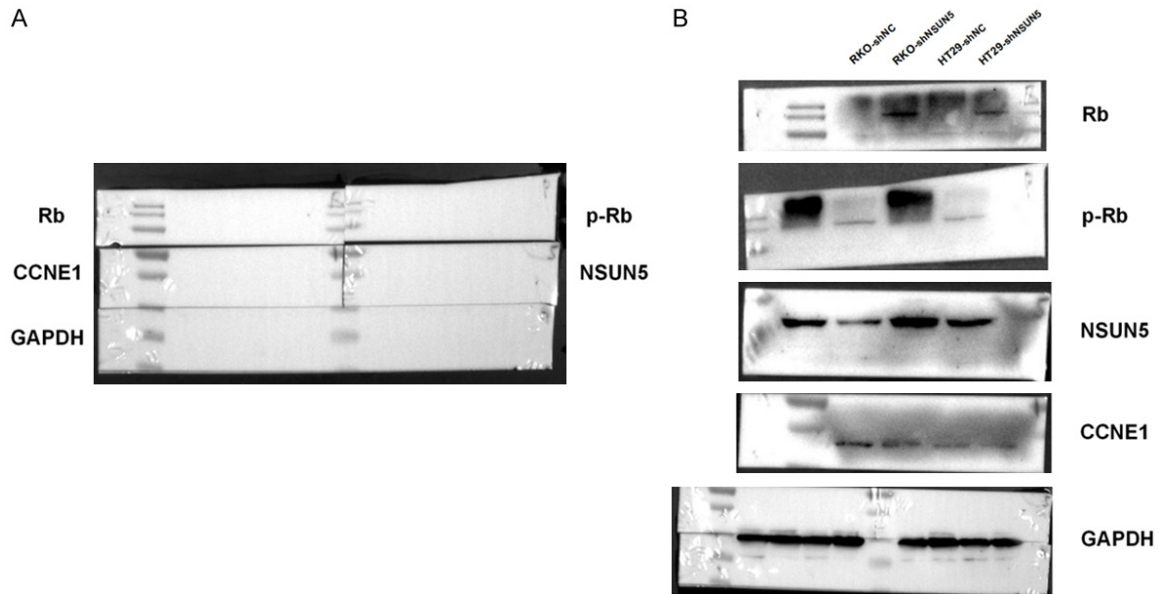


Figure S3. A. The original image of the integral membrane. B. The original western images of GAPDH, Rb, p-Rb, NSUN5, CCNE1.

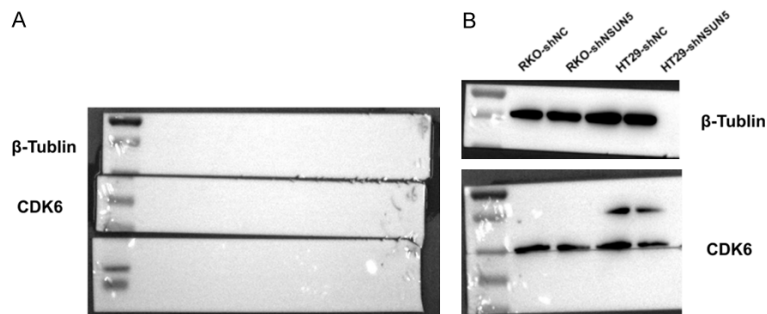


Figure S4. A. The original image of the integral membrane. B. The original western images of beta-Tubulin and CDK6.