Supplemental Data to Mandal et al.

System x_C⁻ and Thioredoxin Reductase 1 Cooperatively Rescue

Glutathione Deficiency

Pankaj Kumar Mandal¹*, Alexander Seiler¹*, Tamara Perisic¹*, Pirkko Kölle², Ana Banjac Canak¹, Heidi Förster¹, Norbert Weiss², Elisabeth Kremmer³, Michael W. Lieberman⁴, Shiro Bannai⁵, Peter Kuhlencordt², Hideyo Sato⁵, Georg W. Bornkamm¹, and Marcus Conrad^{1#}

Figure S1. Stable Expression of xCT in γ -GCS^{-/-} Cells.

(A) As reported previously, intracellular GSH was not detectable in γ -GCS^{-/-} cells by HPLC analysis. *E14 2aTG* wild-type embryonic stem cells were used as a positive control.

(B) Proliferation of γ -GCS^{-/-} cells was dependent on NAC (5 mM) or GSH (2.5 mM) supplementation.

(C) Northern blot analysis revealed strong hybridisation signals of the bicistronic 2.7 kb xCT-IRES-puromycin acetyltransferase mRNA in xCT-transfected (xCT-5 and xCT-7), but not in mock- and eGFP-transfected cells.

(D) Quantitative RT-PCR analysis detected xCT expression in clone xCT-5 and xCT-7 with crossing points at 21.54 and 23.02 cycles, respectively. xCT-5 had approximately 8-fold higher *xCT* expression levels than clone xCT-7 (compare Northern blot). In contrast, no *xCT* signals were detected even after 50 amplification cycles in control cell lines, indicating that xCT expression is virtually absent in these cells.

1

Figure S2. xCT-Expressing Cells were Equally Resistant to Pro-oxidants and Genotoxic Agents as GSH-Supplemented Cells.

(A-D) Cells were treated with various pro-oxidants and genotoxic agents as indicated. The number of viable cells was determined 48 h after treatment by trypan blue exclusion. Error bars indicate mean \pm SD.

Figure S3. xCT-Expressing Cells are Fully Resistant to Chemical Inhibition of γ -GCS.

(A) NAC-supplemented eGFP-transfected cells and non-supplemented xCT-transfected γ -GCS^{-/-} cells were treated with high concentrations of BSO for 72 h and the number of viable cells was determined by trypan blue exclusion. Error bars indicate mean ± SD.

(B) Phase contrast microscopy of eGFP-transfected γ -GCS^{-/-} cells in the presence of NAC treated for 10 passages with 1 mM BSO.

Figure S4. Antioxidant Supplementation Fails to Rescue *Txnrd1^{-/-}* Cells from BSO-Induced Cell Death.

Cells were treated with BSO either in the presence or absence of antioxidant supplements for 24 h and then stained with Annexin V and PI and analyzed by flow cytometry. The tested antioxidants were able to rescue $Txnrd1^{+/-}$ control cells (18.7% Annexin V-PI positive cells in case of BSO alone v/s 1.8% with NAC, 4.3% with Trolox[®] and 4.0% with 2-ME), but were ineffective in preventing BSO-induced cell death in $Txnrd1^{-/-}$ cells (lower panel). The experiment was repeated with another $Txnrd1^{-/-}$ cell line with similar results. Pooled data from two independent experiments is represented in percentage (mean±SD).

```
Figure S1
```



days



Mandal et al.

Figure S2



```
Figure S3
```



Figure S4

