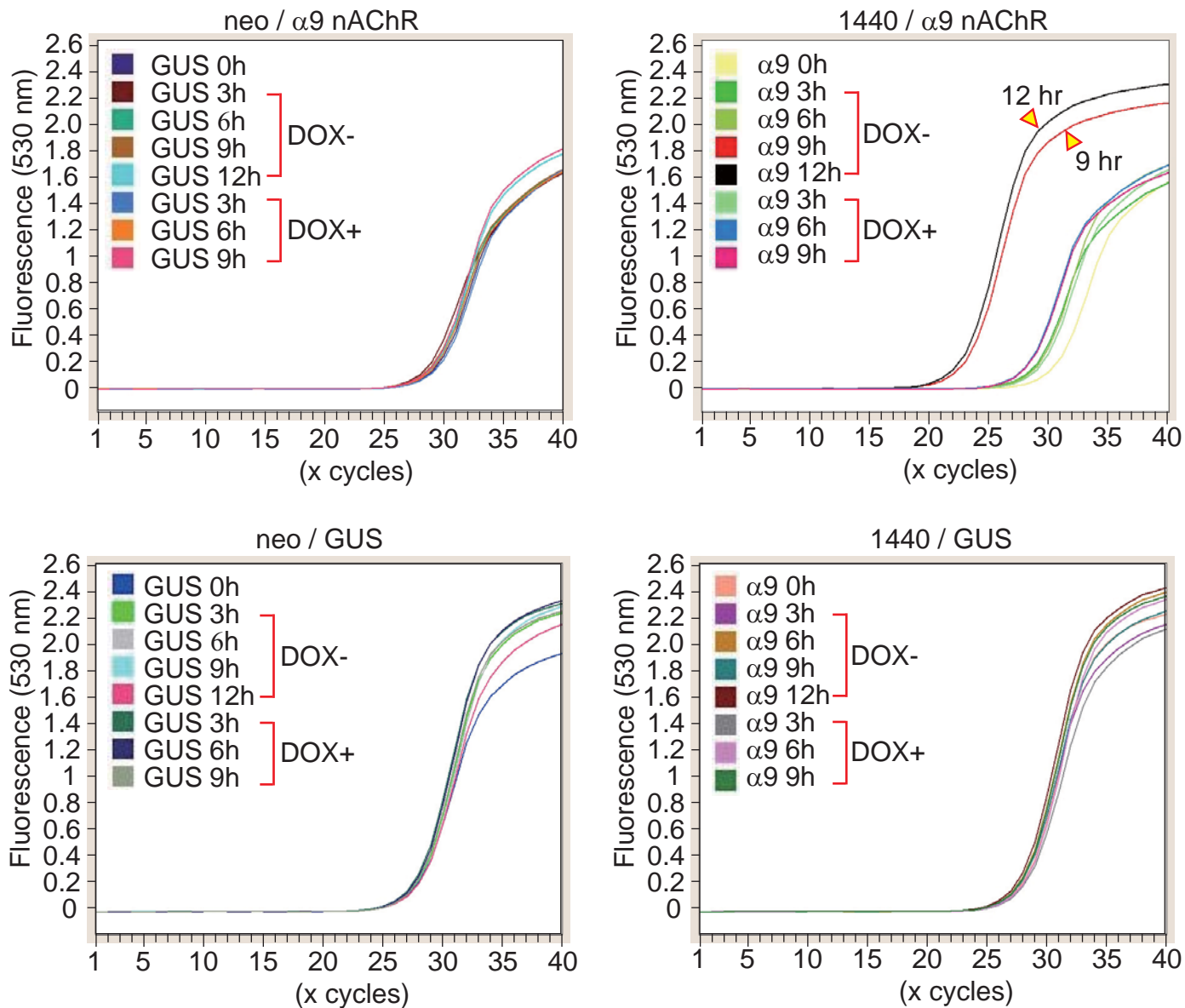
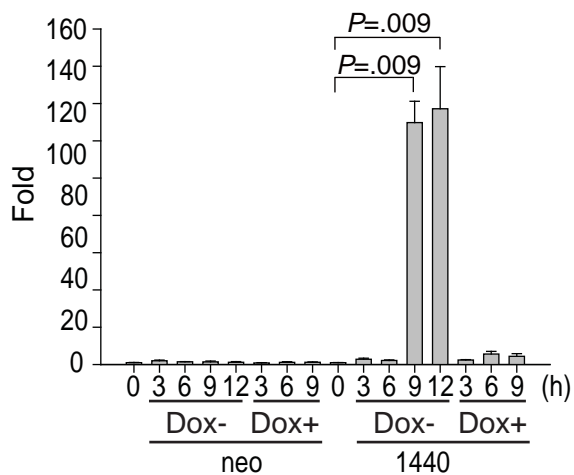


Figure S3

A



B



C

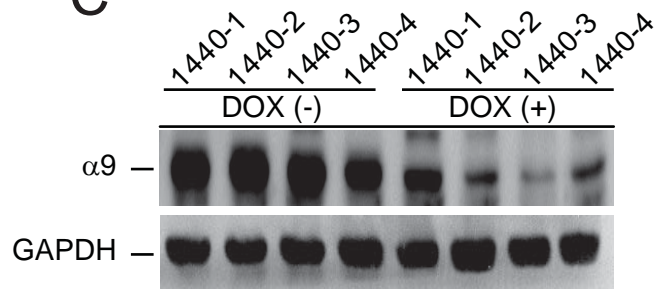


Figure S3. Establishment of transformed human breast epithelial MCF-10A (DOX) cells that overexpressed the $\alpha 9$ -nicotinic acetylcholine receptor ($\alpha 9$ -nAChR) via a tetracycline-based (Tet-off)-regulatory system. **A, B)** Inducible $\alpha 9$ -nAChR expression. Human MCF-10A (DOX) cells were cultured in fresh growth medium containing 10% serum and 1 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ of the tetracycline analog, doxycycline (DOX+). $\alpha 9$ -nAChR mRNA expression was induced in MCF-10A (DOX) cells (designated as 1440) in a time-dependent manner after removal of DOX. Cells infected with adenovirus vector alone (designated as neo) were used as a control. Data points represent the means; error bars indicate 95% confidence intervals. Inducible $\alpha 9$ -nAChR expression was compared in MCF-10A (DOX-) cells at 0 vs 9 and 12 hours ($P = .009$). β -glucuronidase (GUS) gene expression from each sample was analyzed for internal control. Data were analyzed using nonparametric tests (Kruskal Wallis and Mann-Whitney test); all P -values are two-sided.

C) The level of $\alpha 9$ -nAChR protein expression in MCF-10A (DOX-) cells increased substantially 24 hours after removal from DOX (lanes 1–4) in comparison to control MCF-10A (DOX+) cells (lanes 5–8).